

The Curiosity World.

VOL. I.

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H., JANUARY, 1887.

NO. 5.

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The Woodpecker.

Gay Mr. Woodpecker sat on a limb,
In his black and white jacket so nice and trim;
And the black in his coat was like jet you see,
And the white was as white as white could be.
Gay Mr. Woodpecker says to himself,
I have nothing to eat laid up on my shelf,
And winter is coming, I feel it is true,
I'll "lay something up" as nice people do.
And so with a nod, a smile, and a quirk,
With a hearty good laugh he went straight to work;
And he flew 'till he came to his favorite tree,
And he dined on sweet acorns in right merry glee.
Then out spoke the bird once more to himself,
I've nothing to eat laid up on my shelf;
Now want it be nice in winter to dine
On the nuts I can store in the bark of a pine?
So he carved out some holes, with his bill so fine,
A great many, too—I think sixty-nine;
Each hole held an acorn, so snug and so neat,
No carver could do it more nice and complete.
Then when he had finished his provident store,
He chattered away to himself as before;
Now want it be nice in winter to dine
On the nuts I have stored in this tall sugar pine?
For some I shall eat when they're nice and sweet,
And some will provide me with excellent meat,
For when they are stale the maggots will come,
So I'll wait and watch and eat every one.
But how he did feel, when he came one day
And found that a miserable sneak-thief Jay,
Had dug out an acorn, and ate it up, too,
And had put in a stone instead: 'Tis true.

Lying before me is a piece of bark of the sugar pine two inches thick and about four by six inches in size, with four acorns and one stone so nicely fitted in that they cannot drop out. M. A. P., in *Agassiz Companion*.

The Stamps of New Foundland.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

New Foundland is an English province and a territory subject to the laws and government of Canada. The first local stamp issued by the province was in 1857, when there was printed a square stamp of the value of one penny, of a brown color. There was a crown in the centre of a net or frame work of Canada thistles with the figure "1" in each corner, "New Found" at the top, "land" at the right, "St. Johns" at the left, and "One Penny" at the bottom. The two pence issued soon after was somewhat similar in design, the



whole "St. John's New Foundland" being in a circle, above. The three pence green was a three-cornered stamp, with three thistles grouped in the centre, "St. Johns" on the left, "New Foundland" on the right, with the words, "Postage, Three Pence" at the bottom. There were also issued during the year 1857, a two pence, orange, five pence, brown, and four, six, six and a half, eight pence and one shilling, orange. These stamps are very rare, the cheapest selling at twenty five cents. In 1863 appeared another rare series, printed in lake, of the values of two, four, six, six and one half, eight pence and one shilling. This set was suspended during the latter part of the year 1863, before the supply of the 8 d., of the former issue was exhausted, therefore the 8 pence lake was never issued to the public. In 1866 the first of the cent series was issued. The two cent green was of oblong



shape, with a fish in the centre. The five cent brown which came next was of similar



lar shape with a seal in the centre. The ten cent black was of the usual form with a bust of the Prince of Wales in a square frame. The twelve cent pink was of the same design. The 13 cent orange was oblong in form, with a full rigged schooner in the centre. The 24 cent blue was of the same design. The same year there



was also issued a one cent lilac, with a portrait of the Prince of Wales in the centre. From 1869 to 1876, another series was issued, the first stamp, a five cent black appearing in the fall of 1869. It was of the same design as the five cent brown of 1866. In 1870 appeared a three cent vermilion and a six cent rose. These

stamps were smaller and bore a photographic portrait of Queen Victoria, in widow's weeds, with the head turned to the right. From this stamp the design of the Canada bill of revenue stamp was afterwards taken. Similar stamps of the value of one cent violet and three cent blue were issued in 1871 and 1873. The five cent stamp was issued for the third time in 1876, this time being printed in light blue.

In 1870 the one cent stamp was slightly altered by the National Bank Note Co., color, lilac brown. In 1873, a most beautiful post card was issued. In fancy type appeared the words "New Foundland Post Card," above, with a stamp in the right corner, the whole on a beautifully raised ground, within a fancy engraved border. The card was printed in green on white.

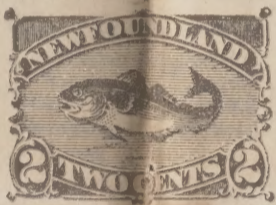
In 1880 the last issue appeared, as



follows: One cent, pale mauve; two cents green; three cents, blue; five cents



blue. The one and three cents are rectangular in similar style to the former issues.



The two cent is oblong, with a codfish in the centre. The five cent is also oblong



in form with a seal in the centre. Few countries have issued stamps more beautiful in design, and the stamps of New Foundland are among the prettiest to be found in stamp collections.

The Coins of the United States.

BY H. J. MIRON.

TWENTY CENT PIECES.

Twenty Cent pieces were first coined in 1875 but they were short lived, however. The design on the obverse is similar to the Quarter Dollar, only smaller. The



reverse is nearly the same as the Quarters with the exception that the scroll is omitted and the eagle is facing to the observer's right. The shield is also omitted from the eagle's breast and the arrows and olive branch are in opposite talons from the Quarter. "Twenty Cents" takes the place of "Quar. Dol." The edges are smooth. A large number of these pieces were coined in 1875, but being so near the size of the Quarter dollar they were often mistaken for them, especially when some unscrupulous person filed the edges, consequently the issue of 1876 was much smaller and it is almost impossible to find one of this date in circulation at the present time, although they can be purchased of dealers at a slight advance over face value. There were only about 600 pieces coined during 1877 and about the same in 1878. They were only issued with proof sets and not put into general circulation, consequently these dates are rare and bring several dollars each when offered for sale. None were coined after 1878.

DIMES.

Dimes were first issued in 1796 and they are the exact counterpart of the Quarter Dollar of the same year, only on a smaller scale. There were two varieties coined in 1797, one having thirteen and the

other sixteen stars. In 1798 the reverse



was changed to the large eagle like the Quarter of 1804. No Dimes were issued in 1799 but their coinage was resumed in



1800 and continued until 1805. None were issued in 1806 but they appeared in 1807. There was no change in the design of the Dimes from 1798 to 1807 inclusive. None were coined in 1808, but in 1809 they again



appeared with the design changed to correspond with the Quarters of 1815. None were coined in 1810, '12, '13, '15 to '19 inclusive, and '26. There were two varieties in 1828, one having large and the other small date. In 1837 the design was changed to Liberty seated. The stars were omitted on the obverse and on the reverse appears "One Dime" in two straight lines, surrounded by a wreath. Around the outer edge are the words, "United States of America." Both the old and the new designs were coined this year. In 1838 thirteen stars were added to the obverse, while the reverse was unchanged. Both varieties were coined this year. No further change was made until 1853, when an arrow was placed on each side of the date, but both varieties were coined. The arrows were omitted after 1855. In 1860 the stars were omitted and "United States of America" takes their place. On the reverse "One Dime" in two straight lines is surrounded by a wreath of cereals. Arrows at each side of the date again appeared in 1873 and during '74, but after this latter date they were omitted. No further change has been made up to the present date. There are over-dates of 1798 over '97, 1811 over '09 and '14 over '11. The early issues are all scarce, that of 1804 being the rarest, followed by '97, 1800 and '02.

Department Stamps.

BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

United States Department stamps were first issued in 1873 for the use of the several departments. Following are the values:

- 1 cent, portrait of Franklin.
- 2 cent, head of Jackson.
- 3 cent, head of Washington.
- 6 cent, profile of Lincoln.
- 7 cent, head of Stanton.
- 10 cent, head of Jefferson.
- 12 cent, portrait of Henry Clay.
- 15 cent, head of Webster.
- 24 cent, portrait of General Scott.
- 30 cent, head of Hamilton.
- 90 cent, portrait of Commodore Oliver Hazzard Perry.

The set of Executive department stamps consists of five varieties: 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 cents, carmine on white paper and were issued for the sole use of that department.

The set of Justice contains ten varieties: 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents. Color, purple. These were used only by this department, and are quite scarce.

The State department had fifteen varieties: 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents and 2, 5, 10 and 20 dollars. The last four are green and black on white, and are of different design from the lower values and are about three times as large. The 5, 10 and 20 dollar stamps are seldom met with, even in what are called large collections, but the values from one cent to two dollars can be procured at prices within the reach of the average collector, although they are daily growing more difficult to obtain.

There were eleven varieties issued for the use of the Navy department. The values are one to ninety cents, inclusive. Color, blue. These bring good prices as compared with their price of five years ago, but if their value increases in the next five years in proportion to the last five, the collector of '92 will have to skimpish round pretty lively, or get left.

Nine varieties were issued for the department of Agriculture, viz: 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24 and 30 cents. Color, straw.

Like those of the above mentioned departments they are quite rare and bring good prices when offered for sale.

Ten varieties were issued for the department of the Interior, viz: 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents, and were printed in vermilion on white. These are not so rare as the above departments and a complete set can be purchased for about one dollar.

The set of Treasury department stamps consists of 11 varieties from 1 to 90 cents inclusive. Color, brown. The 24 cent of this series is very rare, but the other values are not very difficult to obtain.

The set of War department contains 11 varieties, from 1 to 90 cents inclusive. Color, red. The 7 and 90 cent are quite rare, but the other values are easily obtained. There are also a large number of war envelopes, but we have not the space to describe them here.

The set of stamps issued for the Post Office department contains ten varieties, viz: 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents. Color, black. The design is altogether different from those of the other departments. In the centre of the stamp is the numeral denoting its value; above, in a curved line, "Official;" below, "Stamp." At the top in a curved line, "Post Office Dept.;" at the bottom, the value in both letters and figures; at one side, "U" and the other "S." The ten cent of this series is very rare, and the other values can be procured at no great expense. We will describe the War and Post Office envelopes in a separate article at some future time.

Department stamps surcharged "specimen" are met with quite often, and puzzle the brains of young collectors who do not know whether to put them in their albums with respectable stamps, or discard them altogether. These stamps were issued and the word "specimen" printed across them by the government so they could not be used to pay postage. They are genuine, perfectly "respectable" and look much better in an album than the empty spaces, but we should advise every one to replace them as soon as they get used or unused stamps to take their place. The government has not sold any "specimen" stamps since August, 1884, and they will soon be out of the market. Collectors would do well to complete their sets of department stamps as soon as possible as they are growing more valuable each year.

The Gem Stamp Album.

The majority of stamp collectors, especially beginners, prefer to invest what money they can in stamps, rather than in an album. We have just issued a new album, called the "Gem," which for neatness and cheapness is not beat in this country. It is printed on 50 lb., tinted, machine finished paper, and contains space for 600 stamps. Size, 6x8 inches. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD is an illustrated monthly journal containing four pages, twenty columns, each column about 17 inches long, well filled with interesting matter for all classes of collectors.

THE WORLD is printed on 50 lb., book paper, and contains three times as much interesting reading as the average Stamp or Coin Journal. The proprietor has just purchased a new \$500 printing office—which is pretty good evidence that the WORLD has come to stay—and will hereafter publish the paper himself instead of having the work done in an out of town office. The WORLD is devoted to Stamps, Coins, Eggs, Autographs, Indian Relics and all branches of Natural History. It also has an Exchange department in which exchange notices are inserted for subscribers only, free of charge. The editorial department is under the management of the well known author, Mr. H. J. Miron, and Mr. L. W. Durbin has charge of the department of New Issues, assisted by an able corps of the best writers in the United States and Europe. The WORLD costs but 25 cents per year—12 numbers—but the subscription price will soon be raised to 50 cents per year so all who have not subscribed should take advantage of our present low rates. Our advertising rates are 10 cents per line for one insertion, 30 cents per line for four insertions; \$1 per inch for one insertion, \$3 per inch for four insertions. TERMS: Cash in advance.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

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JANUARY, 1887.

OUR AGENTS.

W. A. Tuck, Box 602, Nashua, N. H.
Charles P. Wilcomb, Lake Village, N. H.
Geo. H. Richmond, 5 Beckman St. New York.
Robert W. Manier, Drawer, D, Binghamton, N. Y.
E. B. Cornwell, Rubicon, Wis.
Amateur Newspaper Agency, Dabidsburgh, Pa.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

NOTICE TO PHILATELISTS.

The next meeting of the New England Philatelic Union will be held at Knights of Honor Hall, 730 Washington street, Boston, Mass., Saturday, Feb. 5th, at 2 p. m. It is hoped there will be a full attendance, as business of importance will come before the meeting. Collectors not members are cordially invited to be present and join the Union.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, Sec.

The Stamp Record is about to be published in Denver, Col.

Canada is to have some new postal cards. Well, there is need enough of it.

Krebs Bros., of New York, are about to publish the International Philatelic Advertiser.

A plant possessing electrical properties is said to have been discovered in South America.

A ton of gas coal will make 1500 pound of coke, 140 pounds of coal tar and 20 gallons of ammonia.

The CURIOSITY WORLD gives more reading matter than any other 25 cent Curiosity paper published.

Transparent paper can be made by spreading over both sides a thin coating of resin dissolved in alcohol.

Frenchmen are thinking of substituting nickel for bronze coins and of making them octagonal instead of round.

Divers, while below the surface of the water have telephoned through 600 yards of cable to parties above the water.

There has been built at the Washington Navy Yard a steel rifle 30 feet long and 8 inch bore which throws a 250lb. ball.

The Western Philatelist is said to have appeared, but as we have not been favored with a copy we cannot very well review it.

L. H. Gale, of Nashville, Tenn., has sold his interest in the Cumberland Collector and is about to retire from the stamp business.

F. A. Thomas, of Mexico, N. Y., is about to publish Common Sense, a monthly paper devoted to stamps, coins and curiosities.

Fifteen cents pays for this paper six months and we guarantee to give more reading in six months than the average Philatelic paper gives in one year.

Small favors are thankfully received; larger ones in proportion. If you haven't a quarter you can spare for a year's subscription, send us fifteen cents for six months.

Chas. London of Saccarappa, Maine, while shoeing recently, found lodged in the frog of the horse's hoof a French silver coin of 1786. That horse was a coin collector.

Will M. Clemens, of Jamestown, N. Y., formerly publisher of the Old Curiosity Shop will contribute to our columns during the ensuing year, his first article appearing in this issue.

An exchange says the U. S., 20 cent piece of 1877 is worth \$2 each. Buy up all you can, neighbor; we will go you a quarter better, and can make an even dollar on every piece.

We have just purchased the entire stock of stamps owned by W. L. Emory, of Fitchburg, Mass., which, added to our large stock makes one of the finest stocks in the country. We shall hereafter give more attention to the Approval sheet business and desire a few more reliable agents. We are at all times prepared to purchase for spot cash, any sized collections of Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics and Birds' Eggs.

To be in fashion we will observe: Skinner, the skinner is skinning round the country trying to skin people out of 10 cents each. In other words he is traveling with a dime museum.

The Stamp suggests that S. Allan Taylor be appointed Counterfeit Detector of the American Philatelic Association. Doubtless he could tell of quite a lot of counterfeits, if he chose to.

J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H., wants reliable agents to sell stamps from approval sheets. Never mind about asking for an agency, however, unless you can give A. No. 1 references.

We are willing to give every Curiosity Collector a sample copy of this paper, and only one. We keep a record of every sample copy sent out, and if you want to see us again, you must subscribe.

Plain Talk announces that W. K. Jewett is now proprietor of the Capital City Philatelist. Wrong; W. W. Jewett of Portland, Maine purchased the paper and consolidated it with his Herald.

The publisher of this paper desires to purchase for spot cash, complete files and bound volumes of papers relating to stamps, coins and natural history. If you have any for sale let us hear from you.

The Denver (Col.) Stamp says: Alva Adams, Governor-elect of Colorado, has one of the finest coin collections in the West. During his term of office it will be on exhibition at the rooms of the Public Library in this city.

We have received a copy of the West American Scientist, published by C. R. Orcutt, San Diego, Cal. It is well gotten up and contains a large amount of reading matter and anyone interested in Natural History cannot fail to be pleased with it.

We made the statement last month that the WORLD gave more reading matter than any other twenty-five cent paper published and Bro., Jewett wants us to wait until we see the January number of his Herald. We are afraid we should have to wait too long.

Several very interesting articles have been left over this month, among which are the Birds of the Missouri River Region, the Stamps of Nova Scotia and the Stamps of Ecuador, both the latter are illustrated. The articles will appear in our next issue.

An exchange mentions the fact that one of its editors is connected with one of the largest publishing houses in the city where it is published. That is nothing; we have been connected with the Boston Journal, Herald and Globe for the last three years, (selling their papers).

The Cumberland Collector is now published by Chatham, Gray and Martin; the Quaker City Philatelist, Stamp, Gazette, and P. J. of A., have two or three publishers each. The CURIOSITY WORLD has but one publisher, and it makes us tired to think of the enormous (?) responsibility on our shoulders.

The Halifax Philatelist is the latest. The publisher withholds his name and gives the "Halifax Philatelic Co., Editors and Publishers," which is rather a queer non deplume. It has a great scheme for obtaining subscribers, namely a "grand drawing," giving five prizes to the lucky subscribers.

The Quaker City Philatelic Society is advertising for new members. It strikes us that their dues, \$2 per year are rather steep, considering the fact that the dues in the American Philatelic Association are only that amount and one can derive much more benefit in the American than in any local society.

We have received from Mr. Patrick Chalmers the new edition of the "Submission of the Sir Rowland Hill Committee." It is quite a lengthy document and contains many alleged facts regarding the inventor of the postage stamp, and, if they are true, as no doubt they are, Mr. James Chalmers was the originator of the adhesive postage stamp.

It makes us smile to hear some of our contemporaries growl about subscriptions not coming in faster. We don't consider it the "duty" of anyone to "support" any paper, unless they feel so disposed, and the only way to make them feel so disposed is to give a reasonable amount of reading matter. The majority of publishers insert all the advertisements they can get, at any price they can get, and it nearly breaks their hearts if they have to give two or three pages of reading matter. One publisher told us a short time since that his subscription list didn't amount to a "Hannah Cook," but the advertisements paid him tip top. Judging by the looks of his paper we are not surprised that his subscription list is small. Collectors like to get their money's worth as well as a dealer, and will subscribe for those papers best suited to their tastes. If the publishers of any advertising sheets doubt our statements, let them publish a few more pages of reading matter for three months and note the result.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

CURACAO.—A 7 1-2 cent stamp is reported, color yellow, and a 5c. postal card.

DUTCH INDIES.—Adhesive and envelope stamps of the value of 12 1-2 cents have been issued. The color is pearl-gray.

GIBRALTAR.—Two stamps of the permanent issues without surcharge have been issued, viz. 1 penny rose, and 2 1-2 pence blue.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A new series of stamps was issued the first of January. None of them have yet come over so no description can be given.

GUATEMALA.—A provisional 1 centavo stamp has been made by surcharging the 2 centavos of the current issue.

TURKEY.—The Post Office at Constantinople ran short of 10 para stamps on the 13th of December and a provisional issue, to prepay newspapers, was made by bisecting the 20 paras rose, and surcharging each half with "10" in black.

URUGUAY.—The color of the 5 centavos has been changed to lilac.

OUR REVIEW TABLE.

We have received from W. H. Warner & Bro., the Philadelphia Medalists, a medal of the 250th anniversary of Springfield, Mass. It is made of white metal and is a beauty which must be seen to be appreciated.

Mr. Frank D. Andrews, of Vineland, N. J., has favored us with a copy of "An Arrangement of Copper Cents." This book describes the minute variations of more than four hundred copper cents, beginning with 1816, and continuing until the close of their coinage in 1857. It contains 42 pages and every numismatist who collects "big coppers" should own a copy. Price, 50 cents. Address as above.

We have received from Mr. H. M. Downs, of Rutland, Vt., Vol. I of the "Science Series" bound in cloth. It contains 13 chapters, as follows: The Palm and its Varieties; The Eye and Light; Net and Box, or Insect Collecting; The Solar System; Parasites and their Development; The Diamond; The Study of Natural History; The Microscope and some of its Revelations; Alexander Von Humboldt; Aquariums: How to make and Stock; What we Eat; The Ear and Sound; Zoological Myths; Ants and their Surroundings. The book contains 283 pages, is illustrated and is sold for the low price of 50c., pound in paper covers, or \$1 bound in cloth. Each of the above chapters is also published separate and every one interested would do well to send Mr. Downs 6 cents for any number, and after they have perused it they will be likely to buy the bound volume, or we are no prophet.

WHIPPOOR-WILL.

(Caprimulgus Vociferus.)

The Whippoor-will is by no means a rare bird in this locality. They commence to arrive about April twenty-fifth, and become common about May tenth.

In the evening, one can seldom step out of doors without hearing the shrill notes of several Whippoor-wills in the distant woods. They even grow so bold as to come close to the house, hide in the grape vines or any other dense foliage, and pour forth its charming and unceasing notes, so different from the "hoot owl," whose notes are a series of prolonged "hoots," uttered at intervals of a few seconds.

The Whippoor-will begins to lay about the twentieth of May, and fresh eggs may be found from this date to the first of July. It is hard to find the nest on account of the old bird not flying from the eggs until the hunter is within a few feet of her, and it is not an easy matter to distinguish her from the dry leaves, small branches and the general appearance of the foliage which surrounds the nest.

When the bird is flushed from the nest, she flies but a short distance, utters a sort of hissing sound, and alights where she can keep watch over the nest until the intruder is out of sight.

The eggs are always two in number, unless taken before the complement is complete, of a cream-white background, spotted and marbled, purplish, reddish-brown and lavender. They measure 1.25 by .85 inches, and are laid on the leaves, in a slight depression and occasionally on a mossy stump.—J. W. Jacobs.

We have a few files of the Granite State Philatelist published by us in eighteen eighty-two to eighty-four which we will sell at the following prices: Vol. I, twelve numbers, complete, Sept. eighteen eighty-two to Sept. eighteen eighty-three, one hundred and fifty-six pages, forty cents. Vol. II, twelve numbers, complete, Sept. eighteen eighty-three to Sept. eighteen eighty-four, one hundred sixty-eight pages, thirty-five cents. Vol. III, Nos. one and two, twenty-four pages, all that were issued, ten cents. Or, the complete file, three hundred forty-eight pages, seventy-five cents. There are only a few files left, and those who wish them should purchase them at once. Address J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Postal Notes are now drawn payable at any Money Order office.

Subscriptions may commence with any issue after number three. We cannot supply Nos., 1, 2 or 3.

George L. Gilmore, of Charlestown, Mass., librarian of the N. E. P. U., is a Lieutenant of the cadets at the Institute of Technology, Boston.

The Stamp Collector is the name of a new paper advertised to appear from Philadelphia, this month.

The American Philatelic Association had 143 members in good standing, Jan. 1st. It should have been ten times that number.

The Medalist is the name of a new paper to be published by Geo. E. Fownes, of New York. It will be devoted entirely to medal collecting.

The Comstock Association of Philatelists has been organized at Comstocks, N. Y., with H. W. Meeker, President, and L. C. Baker Secretary.

To those Secretaries of Philatelic Societies who will send us brief reports of their meetings, promptly, we will place on our complimentary list.

Mr. E. A. Holton, 8 Summer St. Boston, Mass., President of the New England Philatelic Union, has been appointed Counterfeit Detector of the American Philatelic Association.

The Stamp says the Denver S. C. L., intends giving candy pulls for the young ladies. Now this "young ladies" racket strikes us favorably and we shall endeavor to be transferred from the New England to the Denver society, immediately.

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12 var	60
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Siam 5 var complete	55
Spain official 4 var complete	40
Switzerland "Ausser Kurs" 10 var complete	10
Thurn & Taxis 14 var	40
Transvaal '69 5 var complete	40

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.

The year 1776 was one among an hundred. It stands out from its predecessors and successors in bold relief, and acquires an interest at once upon mention of its events. The destiny of the colonies hung upon the decision of that little band of patriots who were gathered together in the old city of Philadelphia and sat that year in consideration of the trials and possibilities of the darkest hour in the struggle for liberty. The time for action had now come, and the Continental Congress, consisting of some fifty odd members sat in council, within Independence Hall, in the heat of Summer. John Hancock, of Boston, a man of much sterling worth and patriotism, is presiding. On the 7th of June, Mr. Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, offered his famous resolution that "these colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states" and the people begin to think Congress intends to do something. Three days after, it was adopted by a bare majority of a committee of the whole, but is postponed in the House until the first of July. Meanwhile a committee is appointed consisting of Mr. Jefferson, John Adams, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Livingston, to prepare a Declaration. This committee appoints a sub-committee to draw up the same—Mr. Adams and Mr. Jefferson. The draft is finally written by young Mr. Jefferson, and reported to Congress. It is the subject of debate in a committee of the whole during the second and third days of the month. Upon the 4th day of July it is adopted and copies ordered sent to all the States and to be proclaimed at the head of the army. By the secret journal of Congress on the 19th of July we find this: "Resolved: that the Declaration passed on the 4th, be fairly engrossed and signed by all the members." On the 2nd of August, the Declaration being engrossed, is signed by all the members present. This corrects the general idea that the paper was signed upon the 4th. On the 20th of July, Pennsylvania proceeds to a new choice of representatives. Mr. Morton, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Morris and Mr. Wilson who have voted for the Declaration are re-elected. Those who have opposed it are dropped and the following gentlemen take their places: Mr. Taylor, Mr. Ross, Mr. Clymer Dr. Rush and Mr. Smith. These gentlemen who were, as it is seen, not present at the adoption of the Declaration are permitted to affix their names to the document with the others. This is also true of Mr. Thornton, who does not become a member of Congress until the following November. He is however allowed to place his name among the rest. Before the passage of the act in July, the people are in a ferment of excitement and Independence Hall is constantly surrounded by groups of anxious townspeople. Suddenly upon the 4th, a rumor comes fourth that Congress has decided the question; at high noon, young Col. Nixon of the Continental army comes out from the hall, looking radiant in knee breeches, silver buckles and powdered wig, with cocked hat in one hand and a paper in the other, reads to the crowd the Declaration. Before its completion the boys get at the old bell-rope and ring out liberty until the bell cracks; the people of New York run a leaden statue of George III into bullets and bonfires are lighted in all the states.

But the men who signed the great document have long since passed away and the parchment, which is held by the State department at Washington is now nearly faded out. The forming of a set of autographs is the greatest task a collector can attempt in American history. A group of names of extreme interest and the possession of whose autographs should make any collector proud. Few have succeeded in filling their sets, but with three exceptions, by diligence, patience and a liberal use of money, the autographs of all the fifty-six can be had. Upon this subject the writer, who has forty-eight of the names, has a word to say which may be of interest. The New Hampshire signers were three; Mr. Josiah Bartlett, one of King George's justices, and a man of great wisdom, was the first man to sign the paper. His autograph is quite common upon legal documents but a letter is very scarce, being worth from \$10 to \$15.

Matthew Thornton was also a former King's attorney and his name is found affixed to many law papers. An autograph letter is of excessive rareness. A poor specimen of six lines recently sold for \$40 at an auction sale. It is a strange fact that a letter is so hard to find, when the gentleman must have written much. Collectors will do well to keep everything they find of Mr. Thornton's. His writing and letters were both very poor.

William Whipple was speaker of the N. H., assembly and afterward served with distinction as a General in the war. An autograph letter, and they are often of

the most engaging interest, is worth from \$5 to \$10, according to the specimen and being quite easily obtained. He rarely signed his full name and ended up with a flourish and scrape.

Five Massachusetts men signed the Declaration. John Hancock was president of Congress and his name is the most prominent of all. He wrote it in a plain, bold hand, so very plain it is said that King George III, could read it without his spectacles. Mr. Hancock was in public service through the war, serving later as the first Governor of his state, and every collector will have little difficulty in picking up a document signed by him. However, but few possess a really good autograph letter and a still less number, one of Revolutionary date. A document may be worth \$4 but four times that amount would hardly buy a letter. He did not, by any means, excel his fellows in penmanship, relapsing into a scrawl, after signing his name so plainly.

Samuel Adams, the bosom friend of Mr. Hancock and one of Massachusetts's greatest men, signed the Declaration in a cramped little hand, quite insignificant among the odd scratches and flourishes of his colleagues. Mr. Adams was an ardent supporter of the movement for independence and must have signed his name to the paper with much pleasure. An autograph letter is very, very rare, and will bring extreme prices, while a document is worth but five or six dollars. He became in later years, Governor of Massachusetts, but his commissions are seldom met with.

Mr. Elbridge Gerry, of "Marbled", was a member of Congress in '76, voted for the declaration and signed it in a plain hand, ending up in a succession of crazy flourishes. It is said that while the members were signing the paper, Mr. Harrison, of Va., who was a man weighing over three hundred pounds, looked over Mr. Gerry's shoulder as he signed his name, (Mr. Gerry was a very thin, tall man,) and remarked that when they were hung for signing the instrument, he, Mr. Harrison, would have the advantage over Mr. Gerry. That while he should probably be killed at once by his neck breaking, Mr. Gerry would be swinging in the air like a grasshopper. But, happily, they both lived to see the termination of the great struggle. The autograph of Mr. Gerry is not hard to obtain, a letter being worth \$6 and a document much less. He became Vice-President and Governor of Mass., after the opening of the new century and was universally respected.

John Adams, of Quincy, was one of the committee to draft the Declaration and joined his fellow-patriots in signing it. His letters are always of peculiar interest, long, instructive and full of thought. He was not, however, particularly fond of good spelling or correct punctuation. A good Revolutionary letter of Mr. Adams is worth \$20 and very scarce at that, a late letter is worth \$12. In regard to some of his Revolutionary correspondence, a curious fact may be noted. It is now and then found *unsigned*, a significant fact, when it is noted that the country was full of hostile British and his incendiary sentiments might endanger his neck. The writer has seen several letters of this kind.

Robert Treat Paine, the last of the Massachusetts delegation, was a man of sterling worth, a sincere friend of Mr. Hancock and Mr. Adams and a most willing Signer of the Declaration. An autograph letter of Mr. Paine is something almost every collector lacks and probably always will. A good specimen is worth from \$15 to \$25 when in the market, but like a good security, seldom there. He signed his name in full.

Rhode Island furnished two men to sign the Declaration. Mr. Stephen Hopkins, who had been Governor of the state eleven years, was a feeble old man of seventy and severely afflicted with the palsy. He wrote his name upon the Declaration in a trembling hand, the only instance among the Signers. He was obliged to hold his right hand with his left while he wrote, and Mr. Adams who was standing near, offered to sign his name for him, but he declined saying that if his hand trembled they would find his heart firm. The autographs of Mr. Hopkins are excessively rare. A letter signed is worth \$20 and an autograph letter is so rare as to be out of the question.

Mr. William Ellery, his colleague was a man of great patriotism. He was chosen to the Congress of 1776 and had the honor of signing the Declaration. He took great notice of his fellow members as they signed the paper and placed himself beside Secretary Thompson to see how they looked as they put their names to their *death warrant*. He was a good penman and signed his name with an easy flourish. Mr. Ellery's letters are easily obtained, a good specimen being worth six or seven dollars. He died in 1820 at the extreme age of ninety-two.

(To be continued.)

Philately! A Science.

BY A. PALETTE.

I shall endeavor to prove by this article that *Philately* is a *Science*, by the relation it bears to History, Geography, Chronology, Politics, Languages and the Fine Arts. And that it is also instructive as well, to all who may be engaged in it, be they beginners or advanced collectors, be they of the gentler, or stronger sex. That it gives to the collector a knowledge of the Postal facilities, Revenue laws, and Telegraphic and Telephonic communications of the world, in the Nineteenth Century.

Firstly, by the relation it bears to History. The stamps that we collect and preserve, have on some the portraits of the rulers of their respective countries, (those of Great Britain and her colonies, over 1,325 bearing that of Queen Victoria) others are embellished by numerals, heraldic devices and arabesques and others by pictures while others bear the Goddesses and Hermes; and by the various devices we are enabled to tell from whence they come; those bearing the arabesques, we know emanate from Mohametan lands,

We are enabled to trace the changes of governments that have taken place in the past; Kingdoms and empires that have become republics, and republics that have provisional government agencies, insurrections and rebellions and confederacies. Of one country conquered by another, for instance, Peru (stamps of 1880 surcharged with Chilian Arms, in red, black, blue etc.) and also the stamps of Chili used in Peru. Or the British occupancy of Transvaal in 1877, (see the stamps of Transvaal surcharged V. R.) or the stamps of Roumelia Oriental surcharged with the Bulgarian Lion, rampant, sinister and Lion frame and inscription in 1885. And many others might be mentioned; thus we have on these stamps the history of the rise, decline and fall of Empires, Monarchies and Republics.

Secondly. By the relation it bears to Geography. Many Philatelists take the trouble to enquire where such and such countries are situated, or if they are in ignorance of its location, soon find it out; they know Egypt is in the north eastern part of Africa; that Spain is in the south western part of Europe, and was known to the Romans as Hispania, France as Gallia, and what now comprises the Ottoman Empire, was formerly Greek and Roman provinces; that Switzerland bears its ancient name of Helvetia. Philatelists are not apt to misplace Islands. A certain stamp dealer placed the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in the West Indies, when if he had taken the trouble to look it up, he would have found them to be two small islands off the coast of New Foundland, French Colonies. The Philatelist must know where each stamp-issuing country or city is situated, and by what government it is governed, in order to understand and classify his stamps properly, and in the chronological order they were issued.

Thirdly. By the relation it bears to Chronology. Here again the stamp declares its value, for it shows to us the first issue of this means of prepaying the postage on our letters to convey them to their destination, and the year when other countries saw the utility of of these philatelic leaves, and employed them to prepay their letters, for revenue and for telegrams and telephonic communications. By many it is supposed that Great Britain was the first to issue this means to prepay letters, and, in fact the honor is claimed by her, though wrongfully, for, "Honor be to whom honor is due." To France belongs the honor! for it originated in the reign of Louis XIV, with M. de Val-lyer, who in 1653 established a private "Sou Post". Placing boxes in the corners of the streets, for the reception of letters wrapped up in envelopes, which were franked by bands of paper tied around them, with this inscription: "Post Paid The...(First) day of...(July....) 1653-54." These strips or franks were sold for a Sou each, and could be had at the palaces, convents, and from the porters of the colleges of Paris. The next country to use stamped envelopes and letter sheets was Sardinia. These are of three values each, embossed and printed in colors; 15, 25 and 50c. (see type 936-7-8 Scott's Catalogue, 48th edition.) Thus we see that in the middle of the seventeenth century one hundred and eighty seven years before Great Britain conceived the idea, it had been carried out successfully by a sister Kingdom, and by another, twenty one years before. The United States followed Great Britain in 1842, by what are known as government locals or Provisionals of the various cities. In Alexandria, Va., in 1845; Baltimore, Md., in 1840; Brattleboro, Vt., in 1845; Millbury, Mass., in 1847; New Haven, Conn., in 1845; New York City in 1842; Providence, R. I., in 1845; St. Louis, Mo., in 1845.

To be continued.

Notes on the Cretaceous Period.

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

The Paleozoic Time had just passed away and was to be known to man as one of the formations that had run its course, written its memoirs and assumed a condition that would stereotype its history and preserve it for our interpretation. The memoirs, which were memoirs of the dawn of life, were followed by greater advances, which were in a like manner recorded. The Silurian, Carboniferous and Perinian, were in successive states of formation. Then there was a lull. Apparently the storing of forces was like charging a *leyden jar*,—silent. The Carboniferous had purified the then *rank* atmosphere, and rendered it suitable for higher life. With the dawn of the second day our *leyden jar*—typical—was continuously discharged. First the Triassic, which was followed by the Jurassic, then the Cretaceous ends the second day. Reviewing briefly the amount accomplished in these two long days as we term them, on a cosmological basis; we find that over the Azoic rocks, devoid of all life, there was a world of curious living matter, which grew, multiplied, and then, perished gradually leaving only types to be enlarged and made to accomodate the new conditions existing.

Until, at the dawn of the second day, the Triassic finds the four types of life remaining from the age preceeding; struggling to keep pace with the changes that follow. The four orders of vertebræ are complete and a new flora springs up which in turn receives the addition of the fauna it was designed to support. The appearance of exogenous plants; endogenous already existed in the Carboniferous. The endogenous plants have leaves with veins and the parts of flowers arranged by threes: the exogenous leaves are not veined and the parts of the flower arranged by fives. The development of the former being in "sculptured stem, while the latter, in the beauty of fruit and flower."

The Palæozoic corals had arms arranged in fours. The rays or arms now arrange in sixes. A similar advance may be traced throughout all geological periods. The modes of life, or the manner of holding the head can be traced from the earliest living matters, up to man; and should a diagram consisting of arrows be drawn, as the type of the species indicate, we would have a complete semi-circle. The transmission theory receives good support from some of these facts.

At the time the Cretaceous opened, several of the Southern states were under water. Previous to this, the Triassic upturnings developed intense heat, locally. All water present dissolved quantities of silica, and these hot solutions passing into the cavities produced by these upturnings, deposited silica. Thus the auriferous quartz veins or "reefs" were made: for the gold and all associated ores were carried in at the same time. The hot waters gathering them from all quarters and these largest of gold quartz veins were formed at this time, as the Australian and Californian beds.

The Cretaceous is the closing era of the *Reptilian age*. In America the cretaceous beds occur at intervals along the Atlantic border, along the Rockies, and north of Cape Cod it is unknown. The rocks comprise beds of sand, marl, greenstone, loosely aggregated lime-rock and compact limestone, but scarcely any chalk: while that is one of the chief characteristics of the English beds.

In Texas there is considerable nodules of horn-stone throughout the cretaceous beds. In several cases this hornstone has acted as a cement to the sandstones, which is of great toughness.

"The boulders near Sheep Mountain, which have resulted from the disintegration of the Dakota sandstones, illustrate the durability of this cement, even more so than jasper pebbles enclosed. The prevalent west winds as they sweep along the faces of the exposed parts and are generally loaded with sharp cutting sand, which act as a sand-blast. In some cases a fine polish is made, interrupted by the rough finished appearance here and there: while parts of the pebbles are cut concave, and others stand out as great protuberances and the whole is banded or joined by the glassy appearance of the horn-stone."

Some of the cretaceous minerals are coal, cinnabar, mercury, gold and phosphate of iron. The fossils are generally of a cleaner character than the underlying. The N. J. beds of marl are rich in bellemites and a peculiar limonite concretion, consisting of an outer shell of iron, while the interior is filled with pure white sand.

The famous English cretaceous beds are represented in the collections of nearly every tyro, by the Dover clark flints. Dover is of itself a large borough on the English coast. The inhabitants are quite proud of these beds. The port of Dover

is one of the best on the coast, made by the encroachments of the sea in gullyng out these beds. The cliffs are about 375 feet high and on the highest is a large fortress. The cliffs inward, slope off into the far-famed valley called the "Garden of Kent." In immense quantities, disseminated throughout the beds, are flint nodules; the chalk flint, as it is popularly known. Some of these nodules are of the most fantastic shapes; some by the addition of a few pencil marks can be made to represent almost any natural object. The stone walls for miles around Dover are built up of these nodules and many ships from that port are ballasted with flints. Quantities are also brought over for the manufacture of chalk. This chalk and flint, are the aggregations of animal skeletons, the chalk being of a cellular form, and soft; while the silicious diatoms etc., of the flint are hard. Frequently the flint has formed as a concretion around a nucleus. One I opened a short time ago contained a perfect shell, and the cast was in the other piece. A good way of showing the flint is to select a good white piece, break it in halves and glue a strip of leather on one end to act as a hinge. By this method the nodule may be retained perfect and the interior displayed as occasion requires.

Many are surprised to find on some nodules a thin coating of chalk, as it seems to be, resists the action of acid. This is only the case with an infinitesimal layer. I am not prepared at present to say whether this is a siliceous magnesia compound, or an alteration of the flint itself. The mode of examining both the calcium carbonate or chalk and the flint will be considered in a later paper.

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For every dollar sent me I give a year's subscription to the Youth's Ledger or 500 foreign stamps free. ALVAH DAVISON, Helmetta, N. J.

I GIVE Foreign for U. S. Stamps. Send 2 cents for exchange list. 1000 mixed foreign stamps, my own importation, 20c. Gummed paper 10c. Stamp Albums, 11c, 15c, 25c, 28c, \$1.50 and up. Approval sheets 25 per cent. commission on good reference. My Stamp Catalogue free.

WM. A. TUCK, Box 602, Nashua, N. H.

FALL IN CURIOS! The low prices are good only 30 days from date 5 minerals 1x1 10c; 10 for 20c; 2 sea beans 5c; 3 gator teeth 5c; 2 arrow heads 5c; 5 fossils 10c; 5 corals 10c; 10 sea shells 20c; one fossil fine 15c. All of the above offers sent post-paid for 75c postal note. C. J. VAN Valkenburg, Manchester, Mich.

Publish this ad. and take pay out of the above.

☞Mention the WORLD.

Correspondence Desired.

Any persons interested in collecting autographs or having anything in that line to dispose of are asked to communicate with Howard K. Sanderson, Lynn, Mass. A large number of desirable autograph letters and documents to exchange.

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PREMIUM COIN LIST.—Our Premium Coin List contains 16 large pages, 94 illustrations, and gives our buying prices for all U. S. coins worth over face value. A copy should be in the hands of everyone who handles money. By its help they could obtain premiums on coins that would otherwise be passed out in change. Price, post free, 10 cents, or 3 for 25c.

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We publish the above albums ourselves, or we could not afford to give such good books for so little money. To anyone buying \$1 worth of the above albums at one time we will give THE CURIOSITY WORLD one year FREE. Address,

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

COLLECTING BUTTERFLIES.

BY R. A. MEERS.

The month of June and the first week in July of this year has been exceedingly favorable for the capture of our bright-winged game. A succession of bright sunny days brought the butterflies from their hiding places, and the absence of high winds enabled them to enjoy their brief existence flitting from flower to flower, their brilliant coloring outrivalling those of Flora's offspring.

Among the most numerous during the past few weeks, I have observed *Papilio Podalirius*, *Limenitis Sybilla*, and two *Fritillaries*, *Argynnis Aglaia* and *Adippe*. Below I give a brief description of these lovely insects:

Papilio Podalirius is one of the largest of the butterflies in the region round



about my home. All of the Family *Podalirionidae* are beautiful, and can never be mistaken for the members of any other family. The one unaffailing distinction is the possession of the long tail-like appendage to the hind wings. Unlike some that I shall have occasion to talk about later, the coloring of *Podalirius* is broad and simple, consisting mainly of bands alternately crossing the wings. The colors are a rich, velvety black and a pale greenish white, with a vivid red spot on the first interior angle of the two hind wings. The under side is very similar to the upper, but the colors are less intense. This is a most powerful insect on the wing, its flight being high and rapid, and the hunter needs all his agility and tact, combined with a bold sweep of the net, to capture one.

The locality most affected by this insect, in my experience, is in the neighborhood of heavy timber, or about the bluffs bordering lake or river. It makes its appearance usually in July or the beginning of August, but this year I captured one in June and saw hundreds of others.

The caterpillar is as handsome as the perfect insect; is of a pale greenish color, with dark or black rings and reddish spots. Just back of the head it has a red tuft, that gives it a formidable appearance.

The chrysalis varies in color from green and yellow to brown and drab.

The butterfly is quite large, ranging from two and a half to four inches across the expanded wings, the illustration being much reduced in size, and makes an exceedingly interesting object in the cabinet.

Limenitis Sybilla (sometimes called the "White Admiral") is one of those butterflies upon which Nature seems to have expended most pains with the under-side of the wings. The engraving gives an excellent idea of the appearance of this insect. The upper side is colored a deep sepia-brown, with bands and spots of

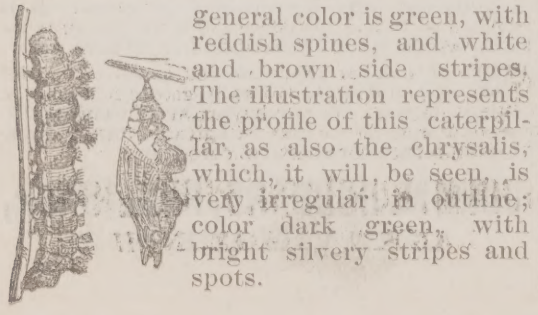


white; not at all of a startlingly attractive character. But beneath there is one of the most lovely pieces of delicate and harmonious coloring possible to imagine.



There are silvery blue and golden brown, blended with lower shades of brown and black, and then in strong contrast are bands and spots of pure silvery white.

The caterpillar, which may be found on the Honeysuckle and other members of the *Capri foliaceae*, is pretty, although somewhat curious in appearance. The



general color is green, with reddish spines, and white and brown side stripes. The illustration represents the profile of this caterpillar, as also the chrysalis, which, it will be seen, is very irregular in outline; color dark green, with bright silvery stripes and spots.

The Butterfly is found on the wing in the months of June, July, and part of August, and should be looked for among oak-trees where the shade is not so dense as to prevent the flowers blooming among them.

From the dull colors of the upper surfaces of the wings, this butterfly may be often passed by the collector, as when the insect is resting upon the trunk of the oak it is not readily distinguished from the bark.

On the wing, this is one of the most graceful of insects, as its elegant evolutions, as it seems to sail through the air are truly interesting.

Argynnis Aglaia (the Dark-Green Fritillary)



lary) is a handsome insect, the ground color being of orange-brown, which to the eye has a greenish appearance, chequered with



black. The under side of the front wing is much like the upper, with the addition of a few silvery spots near the tip. The hind wing is splendidly decorated with rounded spots of silver, on a ground color partly tawny and partly olive-green and brown. The illustration represents the male, the female being much darker in color.

The butterfly is on the wing in July and August, and frequents the wooded valleys, although occasionally taking a bold flight across the breezy prairie.

The caterpillar feeds preferably upon the Dog Violet, but is not too particular in that regard. It is nearly black, with yellow lines along the back and sides, and is thickly studded with spines.

The chrysalis is gray, speckled with silver gilt.

Argynnis Adippe (the High-Brown Fritillary) on the upper side closely resembles *Aglaia*, but beneath, the difference consists in the absence of some of the silver



spots on the front wings, and upon the hind wings the silver spots are, not as round as with *Aglaia*, the outer row are larger, and between the two rows is a



row of rust-red spots, with small silvery centers.

The caterpillar is thorny, of a gray ground color, with black spots on the back, intersected by a line of pure white.

The chrysalis is reddish, spotted freely with silver.

July is the month in which this butterfly may be found in greatest numbers, but some linger with us through August. It loves the glades and open places among the timber, or hovers over the wild raspberry, upon which its caterpillar finds abundant food, as also upon the violet and nettle.

The Fritillary is a bold-flying insect, and sometimes gives it would-be captor a lively run, at last soaring away among the tree-tops, altogether beyond the reach of any hand-net.

To those who are not accustomed to the examination of the beauties of insect life, the species I have endeavored to describe will open up an interesting study, illustrating the perfection of Nature's handiwork, and the exquisite results in color-blending which are exhibited in some of the most insignificant of the animal kingdom.

In the arrangement of these lovely creatures in the cabinet of the collector, I would again remind my readers that, to-

gether, the upper and under sides should be exhibited. After the insect has dried in position upon the "setting board," carefully withdraw the pin from the back of the specimen, and, turning it over, insert from beneath. Then place it in your cabinet.

When exhibiting your collection to admiring friends, be vigilant to prevent them touching your specimens, as many are apt to point out beauties with the fingers, and in so doing destroy the value of the insect by rubbing off the scales. Let every one understand that a collection of butterflies is to be looked at, not handled. —[*Young America*.]

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange Notices not exceeding twenty-four words will be inserted for subscribers only, free of charge. Over 24 words, one cent per word.

U S stamps to exchange: 7c vermilion, 15c black, 30c orange, 1861, 5c 1847, for 24c '69, 5, 30 and 90c '57-61. H L Andrews, Woburn, Mass.

A Hero steam engine with lamp, ten arrowheads and Taxidermist's Guide for coins, bird's eggs, sea shells and all kinds of curiosities. Wm Hutchinson, North Star, Pa.

Sea curiosities, stamps, bird's eggs, a 32 cal. Remington revolver and reading matter for minerals, coins etc. A human skull desired. A D Aiken, Schaghticoke, N. Y.

A pair of all clamp nickel plated roller skates for vol 1 and 2 Golden Days or best offer in books. Wm Jackson, Cornwall Landing, N. Y.

I wish to purchase for cash or good exchange, a complete file of Harpers Young People and Golden Days bound or unbound. Also books relating to stamps, coins, birds, natural history and all kinds of curiosities. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

1,500 tin tags, arrow heads and bird's eggs, single or in sets for rare eggs in sets or singly. J W Jacobs Waynesburg, Pa.

Stamps, coins, minerals, fossils, Indian pottery, arrow and spear heads for the same, also for books, papers and type. James Galen, Kaniawillville, Pa.

History of Kansas, Life of Kit Carson, Life of Gen Israel Putnam, for South American Silver coins. Also foreign copper coins for others not in my collection. D E Brubaker, Florida, Henry Co, Ohio.

Books, coins and magazines for coins or offers. C T Tatman, 93 Piedmont St, Worcester, Mass.

Indian Relics for large U S cents, V nickels and foreign coins, also stamps, postmarks, tin tags, minerals and fossils for coins. H T Upson, Parkersburg W Va.

A wax-wing's and other eggs to exchange. Write first. Burtis H Wilson, Danport, Iowa.

A Maynard breech loading rifle, percussion fire, 32 calibre, much used, head split lost, with brass shell for best collection of stars. Nathaniel W Appleton, Thornley street, Dorchester, Mass.

Stamps, postmarks, big U S cents, V nickels, tin and paper tags, curiosities, all cards etc for autographs. W S Gingen, box 332, Bordentown, N J.

A collection of 1,000 varieties of rare stamps in a fine book also a collection of stamp papers for a 22 calibre rifle. Frank B Gough, 93 South Broadway, Yonkers, N. Y.

For 200 square-cut envelope stamps I will give a brand new Gem stamp album containing space for 600 stamps. John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Coins, stamps, Indian relics and curiosities for specimens not in my collection. Fred D Snyder, Maryville, Mo.

U S revenue, document, match, medicine, proprietary and playing card stamps also stamp and coin papers for the same, or for postage stamps. A G Bishop, box 67, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Marine algae shells and autograph letters for continental bills and autograph letters or good fossils correctly named. Mrs N H Bracey, West Gloucester, Mass.

Coins and medals of Canada and Great Britain for fine U S cents 1793 to 1824, including silver and half cents of 1793, '95, '96 and 1831 to '48. Joseph Hooper, box 105, Port Hope, Ont.

Arrow heads for coins and stamps not in my collection. 5 postmarks from Australia and New Zealand for every U S 7 cent stamp. J D Sloat, box 177 St Charles, Mo.

A violin and outfit for a collection of 500 to 1,000 stamps. Have a flute, bird's eggs rare minerals and books for stamps, U S preferred. E B Smith, box 24 Warren, Mass.

50 postmarks or 20 newspaper headings for a V nickel without cents. J E Hartman, 1435 State St, Chicago, Ill.

For 100 assorted match, medicine or document stamps I will give a year's subscription to this paper. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Recipe for making gold and silver ink for 25 var old U S stamps in good condition. Edgar D Melville, Chester, Pa.

I will give complete directions for making a copy pad for any stamp that catalogues at 15 cents or over. A. Melvin Jones, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

U S revenues, rare foreign postage or fine spec of angloamerat for fine cabinet minerals. Will allow 20 cents per 1000 for common U S stamps. W. P. Young, Pond St, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

A trick cabinet containing 25 tricks, secrets of ancient and modern magic, a tag album, 75 different tags, space for 250 more for a good printing press & stamp. Oliver Van Olinda, Hedington, Neb.

50 coins, 35 bird's eggs, minerals and curiosities, stamps, for butterflies, minerals, fossils, stamps, sea shells and curiosities and Indian relics. Lists exchanged. Geo. W. Harris, Gowanda, N. Y.

Stamps, entire envelopes, U S revenues to exchange. Send list of wants and state what you have to offer. G. T. Rockwell, box A, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Bird's eggs, sea curiosities, stamp and curiosity papers, tin tags etc, for satin spar, and flourite or a U S quarter of 1831. W. P. Arnold, Shannock, R. I.

100 mixed foreign stamps for one of Gambia. 20 var rare stamps for 3 from Brazil, Japan or Bermuda. E. P. Newcomer, Decatur, Ill.

150 bird's eggs in cabinet, a pair of deer horns, 4 varieties of alphabets with which one can paint signs for coins, fractional and confederate currency autographs and curiosities. Frank Nelson, box 909, Monmouth, Ill.

A second hand international stamp album for type press or tags. Harry C. Quinby, Lake Village, N. H.

Rare stamps and stamp papers for stamps. Wm. B. Hale, Williamsville, Mass.

I have about 300 Swedish and Danish coins, (some very old) would like to exchange for foreign coins not in my collection. J F Jones 231 Steele St Jamestown N. Y.

I will give a set of bird's eggs with data blank for every 2 good minerals or curiosities sent me or 1 V nickel without cents. J L Smith Cornish Center N. H.

To complete my United States issues I would like to open correspondence with one or two collectors in the U S who may have duplicate stamps for exchange. A J Craig Box 30 Platon Nova Scotia.

Scott's catalogue, 47th edition for rare stamps, Philatelic and Curiosity papers and good U S stamps for rare stamps. J L Knowlton 507 Eastern Ave Joliet Ill.

A Collecting Trip.

BY W. H. FOOTE.

On the morning of May 30th, or, by the way, it was Decoration or Memorial Day at this place, my friend Wm. May, my brother and myself started out on a day's tramp to see what we could find by way of birds' eggs to add to my collection. My friend is not an egg collector but is a great case to catch wild birds and tame them. We started about eight o'clock, carrying some lunch and a few other necessary articles with us and by nine were at the first woods, as they are generally called, at which place our collecting began at once as you will find farther on.

Just as we entered the woods a bird fluttered from beneath my friend's feet and on looking down he saw, in a large nest composed mostly of grass and leaves, four light blueish-green eggs, which, as you have probably already surmised, were those of the Wilson Thrush or Nightengale. During the day we found several more sets, and I had the good luck to obtain a fine set of five, the only one I found that whole season.

The first Wilson Thrush's nest was the only set of any value we found in these woods, all others being those of robins, catbirds, etc., but on going through a pasture we obtained one set of two, of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo and two sets of the Black-bill. The Black-bill's nests were both situated in thorn apple trees and the nest of the Yellow-bill in a low bush not three feet from the ground.

It was now about dinner time, as our stomachs told us, at least mine was giving me a lecture about poor attention to the "inner man" and we sat down by a cool spring and took solid comfort in getting outside of that lunch as long as it held out, which was not long. After we had eaten and feeling much better, though a great deal lazier, we set out again and after a tramp of half an hour we began to think our luck had left us when I heard a shout from my brother who was lagging behind and on going to him we found he had made the best find of the day, which was as handsome a set of five eggs of the Golden-crowned Thrush or Oven Bird as I have ever seen. The nest was outwardly composed of grass, leaves and rootlets, lined with fine grass and hair and was nicely roofed over. It was situated on the ground, hardly distinguishable from the leaves on which it was placed. After this we found one set of five of the Chestnut-sided Warbler, which are much more abundant breeders than the preceding species, also a set of Maryland Yellow-throat's.

Coming home we passed through a swamp and when about half way through, I discovered a nest not quite as large as a crow's, in an evergreen tree. The old bird was on the nest and when she flew off I identified her to be a female Green Heron. On climbing to the nest I found it contained four fresh eggs. This was my first find of eggs of this bird, although I had often found old nests and the young. We now started for "Home Sweet Home" and reached there about six o'clock, just in time for supper. We were a sad looking lot when we got home, our pants bedecked with mud, our hands and faces covered with scratches, but what cared we as long as we had something to show for it. And although we did not collect sets by the hundred, we had variety in place of abundance. I must confess that I shall remember that day as long as I shall the one I got covered with lice off an old crow I shot. It makes me scratch to think of it.

Rare Coins.

Probably nearly every one in the United States knows that there are many coins in circulation that are worth much more than their face value, but they wouldn't know them if they should meet them in the middle of the street. We have issued a Premium Coin List, containing 94 illustrations, and giving our buying prices for every U. S. coin worth over face value. Every one who handles money should possess a copy. Price, 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents, post free. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

The Oologist's Directory.

Mr. Charles P. Wilcomb has in preparation the Oologist's Directory, which will contain the names and addresses of collectors of Bird's Eggs in all parts of the world. One in this latitude can add but few specimens to his collection during the winter months except by exchanging his duplicates with his brother collectors. As the Directory will contain the addresses of at least a thousand collectors, it must be a valuable book for oologists. It will be published by John M. Hubbard, uniform in size with "The Stamp Collectors of the World."

A few advertisements will be inserted at 50c. per inch; \$6 per page, (14 inches). Length of columns 7 inches; width 13 ems pica, 2 columns to the page. 1000 copies will be issued and will retail for 10 cents each. Every egg collector is requested to send his name and address on a postal and dealers to send their advertisements to John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

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EVERYBODY

Knows there are many coins in circulation at the present time that are worth much more than their face value; but not one in a hundred knows what coins command a premium, or what they will bring if offered for sale. We have just issued the second edition of our Premium Coin Catalogue, thoroughly revised to date. It contains 16 pages, nearly 100 illustrations, and gives our buying prices of every American Gold, Silver and Copper coin worth over face value. Following are a few of the coins wanted, and the prices we pay, taken from our new Premium Coin Catalogue:

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20 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1852
10 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1858
20 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1796
15 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1823
30 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1827
3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	20c piece of 1877 '78
25 " " " " " " " " " " " "	half dime, of 1892
3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	nickel cent of 1896
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N. B. I wish to buy large or small collections of Coins and stamps for cash.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,

Lake Village, N. H.

The Curiosity World.

VOL. I.

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H., FEBRUARY, 1887.

NO. 6.

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She clutched it in eager grasp,
Like a miser who dies for his money,
Struck down by a plunderer's arm.
But her greed, when its secret was sought for,
Was a passion with tears to be told.
And the treasure she clung to and fought for
Was a treasure more precious than gold.
Through the slums of the city, unfragrant,
She had wandered, old, weary and lame,
Till the sentrymen seized her—a vagrant,
And the clerk of the night took her name.
But then voices, with kindly endeavor
Made gentle, spoke not of her sin,
For a captive more pitiful never
The gates of a prison shut in.

One hand, from the quest of the jailer,
"Neath her poor ragged apron concealed,
Shrank in fear, and her lips growing paler,
In grief to his mercy appealed.
"Sure it's nothing—no, nothing to mind of
Let me have it, oh spare it, I pray!
It's only—a kind of—a kind of a
A keepsake—don't take it away!"

Her eyes, for the tear drops had started,
She hid with one thin, withered arm,
While the jailer, stern-faced, but kind-hearted,
Assured her, and soothed her alarm.
He must search, for his duty compelled it;
Her hand from the apron he drew,
And soon from the fingers that held it,
Uncovered a torn little shoe.

"You may keep it," he faltered, "no danger."
And the pauper sobbed back through her tears,
"That has cheered me when hope was a stranger,
My joy five-and-thirty long years.
'Tis the last, since I mourned him, heart-broken,
Lett to me, of my baby, my lamb,
And but for that dear little token
I had been twice the wretch that I am."
In the cell where they led her, and left her,
Sank the weary old vagrant to rest,
With her dream of the day that bereft her,
And the relic of love on her breast.
And the friend who had taken
Came snuggling, more near than she knew,
And his sign to the mother forsaken,
Was the touch of that torn little shoe.

—Youth's Companion.

The Stamps of Ecuador.

BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

Ecuador, one of the South American republics is situated in the western part of South America, and is bounded on the North by the United States of Columbia, on the East by Brazil, on the South by Peru and on the West by the Pacific Ocean. It is traversed by the Equator, hence its name. Its area is 248,312 square miles, and its population nearly 100,000, besides about 200,000 Indians. Quito, the capital, situated 9,500 feet above the level of the sea—over 3,000 feet higher than the summit of Mt. Washington, the highest peak of the White Mountains, in New Hampshire—contains over 80,000 inhabitants. Guayaquil, the principal seaport, has a population of 26,000. Ecuador is traversed by two vast mountain ranges of the Cordilleras, and the summits of some of the highest peaks are 18,000 feet above the sea level, and are covered with perpetual snow. The government is vested in a President, who is chosen by 900 electors who are elected by a popular vote, the Vice President, who is Minister of the Interior, and three cabinet officers. There is also a Senate, composed of sixteen, and a House of thirty members, who are elected by the people. The army consists of 5,000 men and the navy is composed of three small steamers. The public debt is about \$13,000,000. The standard coin is 1 peso or piastre, (1 dollar)=10 reals=100 centavos.

Roads are comparatively unknown, being mostly mule tracks which are almost impassable several months in the year. Wheeled conveyances are almost unknown and goods are transported on the backs of mules. Cocoa, India Rubber and Peruvian Bark are the principal articles of export. The principal religion is Roman Catholic. There are about 600 schools and several colleges and universities.

Postage stamps were first used in Ecuador in 1865 and were of the following design: In the centre, arms of Ecuador in oval, supported by flags; above, an eagle with outspread wings, the whole surrounded by a beaded circle; "Ecuador Correos" at the top, value at the bottom; key pattern at sides. There were five varieties of this issue; 1 real yellow, on quadrille paper, and 1-2 real, blue, 1 real buff, 1r, yellow and 1r, green, on white paper. The 1r, on quadrille paper is quite rare and is catalogued at \$1.

In 1866 there was a new issue. In the centre, arms in oval, supported by flags, eagle above, ornamented frame; "Correos Ecuador" on scroll at the top, value in straight line at the bottom. But one value of this design was issued; 4 reals red, but there is a very rare variety having the arms in a circle instead of in an oval.

In 1872 there was a 1 real stamp issued of the same design as the issue of 1865, printed on blue paper. This is very rare. There were also three other stamps issued in 1872; 1-2r, blue and 1r, orange, with arms, eagle etc., in ornamented frame; "Correos Del Ecuador" in scroll above and "Porte Real" and the value on a curved line at the top, value below; lined ground. The third variety of this issue is a 1 peso, rose, of the following design; Arms, flags and eagle on lined circular disk; "Ecuador Correos" in a straight

line at the top, value below, border at



sides and ornamented corners. This stamp is quite rare.

In 1881 there were issued 1 centavo, brown, 2c, lake, 5c, blue, 10c, orange, 20c, slate and 50c, green. No two values of



this issue are precisely alike. In 1882 the 50c, was surcharged "Diez Centavos."

In 1885, 1c, blue, 2c, bistre and 5c., vermillion revenues were used for postage. The 2c, and 5c, were also surcharged, "May 2, 1885," in three lines in the centre, "Union Postal" in a semi circle above, "Guayaquil" below. These stamps are very rare, and cheap at any price.

The Coins of the United States.

BY H. J. MIRON.

HALF Dimes.

Half Dimes made their first appearance in the year 1794 and are of the same design as the half dollar of the same date.



only reduced in size and weight to make the twentieth instead of the half of a dollar, and they have fourteen instead of thirteen stars. Those of 1795 were of the same design. In 1796 the obverse was changed to the head of Liberty, with hair tied by a ribbon, similar to the dime of the same date, with fifteen stars. The



same design is continued in 1797, but there are varieties having thirteen, fifteen and sixteen stars. None were coined in 1798 or 1799. They again appeared in 1800, with thirteen stars on the obverse, and with the large eagle reverse. None were coined in 1804. They again appeared in 1805, but after that date none were coined until 1829. On the obverse of this issue is the head of Liberty facing to the left, with cap, and band inscribed "Liberty" thirteen stars and date, both obverse and reverse being of the same design as the half dollar of that date. In 1835 there were both large and small dates. This design was continued until 1837, when Liberty appears seated. There are no stars on either obverse or reverse, and the coin is the exact counterpart of the dime of that date, only smaller. Both varieties were coined in 1837. In 1838 the stars were added to the obverse and there



were no further changes in design until 1840, when one variety has drapery and the other does not. In 1848 there are both large and small dates. In 1853 arrows were placed on each side of the date, both varieties being coined this year. The arrows were omitted after 1855. In 1860 the stars were again omitted, and the words "United States of America" take their place on the obverse; reverse, "Half Dime" in two straight lines surrounded by a wreath of cereals. There were no further changes until 1873, when the coinage of half dimes was discontinued by Act of Congress. The most valuable half dime is that of 1802, which sells readily at thirty dollars for a fine specimen. All of the early dates are rare, but those issued from 1829 to 1873 with the exception of 1846, are quite easily obtained.

THREE CENT PIECES.

Silver three cent pieces were first coined in 1851. The first three years they were alloyed with 25 per cent of copper, but after 1853 their fineness was the same as the higher values. But few were coined

from 1863 to 1872, and in 1873 only proofs



were struck. They were discontinued in 1873, much to the delight of the public. There is a variety from the New Orleans mint, with a large "O" on reverse. Those of 1855, and all after 1863 are quite rare, and seldom found in circulation.

NICKEL.

FIVE CENT.

Five cent nickels were first coined in 1866. They contain an alloy of 25 per cent nickel and 75 per cent copper. The figure "5" in the centre is surrounded by thirteen stars. Legend, "United States of America." Below, "Cents." Reverse: A decorated shield resting on crossed arrows. Above, "In God we Trust." Below, the date. In 1867 rays were added to the obverse, but they were omitted after that date. There were no further changes until 1883, when the "V" nickel made its appearance. The first issue of the new design was like the illustrations,



but after the coins were in circulation a short time it was discovered that unscrupulous persons gold plated them and passed them on their unsuspecting victims for \$5 gold pieces. For this reason the "E. Pluribus Unum" was placed between the wreath and legend, and the word "Cents" added below, making three varieties coined in 1883. There has been no further change. All are common with the exception of 1877 and 1878.

THREE CENT.

Nickel three cent pieces were first issued in 1865. Obverse, Head of Liberty surrounded by the legend, "United States of America." date below; reverse: "HT" in the centre, surrounded by a wreath. The design has not been changed to the present time, and all dates except 1877 and 1878 are easily obtained.

COPPER.

TWO CENT PIECES.

Two cent pieces made their first appearance in 1864, consisting of 95 per cent copper and 5 per cent zinc and tin. In the centre of the obverse in two lines is "2 cents," surrounded by two half wreaths of wheat tied together at the bottom. Legend, "United States of America." Reverse: A decorated shield, with the words "In God we Trust" in a scroll above, and the date below. Those of 1872 are quite rare and only proofs were issued in 1873, consequently they are very rare. Their coinage was stopped by Act of Congress in 1873.

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence.
BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.

Connecticut had four representatives in the famous Congress of 1776. Mr. Roger Sherman was perhaps the most distinguished of them all. He was appointed as we have said, to aid in preparing the Declaration, and was a most conspicuous figure in the stormy days, when the clouds of war, which had been lowering, seemed to burst at once in all their fury. He signed the document without fear or trembling. Mr. Sherman's autograph is quite often met with upon old legal papers a great many of which passed before him. An autograph letter, however, is rare, bringing from fifteen to twenty-five dollars. His writing was small and poor.

Samuel Huntington took his seat in Congress in 1776, and was present and voted in favor of independence. He was a most distinguished man in National councils, being chosen in 1779 to succeed Mr. Jay as President of Congress and afterwards was Governor of Connecticut. The autograph of Mr. Huntington is in no way rare. A document signed is worth \$1.50 and an autograph letter \$5. His name is probably one of the first a collector will obtain of the Signers.

Oliver Wolcott was another man of great patriotism. He took his seat in Congress early in 1776 and stood firmly for liberty. An autograph letter is worth eighteen or twenty dollars, being rare, but as in the case of Mr. Sherman, a law paper, showing the name of Mr. Wolcott is readily found. Collectors should here look out and not obtain the autograph of

the son, who bore his father's name and wrote quite similarly. This same caution may be extended to other names which we shall mention.

Col. William Williams had served in the French and Indian wars, and was consequently acquainted with the methods of warfare. He was an ardent supporter of the measure for Independence and signed the Declaration. It is related that one evening, in company of Mr. Huntington and Mr. Hillhouse, the conversation turned upon the gloomy state of affairs and that, after all, success would crown the British arms. "Well," said Mr. Williams, with great calmness, "if they succeed, it is pretty evident what will be my fate. I have done much to prosecute the contest, and one thing I have done the British will never pardon. I have signed the Declaration of Independence. I shall be hung." Fifteen dollars would hardly buy an autograph letter of Mr. Williams and his name is rarely found in any shape. He wrote with a quill and illegibly.

The first real difficulty in completing a delegation which comforts a collector, is the filling up of the New York men. They consist of Mr. Floyd, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lewis Morris. Mr. Henry Misner was present and voted for the Declaration, but before the engrossed copy was signed by the members, he left Congress and thus failed of really becoming one of the Signers. This is also true of Mr. Robert Livingston, who was on the drafting committee, he being away in regard to powder for the army. A collection should really show both of these names.

Mr. Floyd's autograph is very rare, being met with only by chance. An autograph letter of any description is valuable, while his name is seldom found upon a document. This seems a little strange inasmuch as he afterward became a General and lived to the extraordinary age of eighty seven. In this case it is necessary to be careful and not confound the son with the father, both of whom wrote very nearly alike. Mr. Floyd signed his name plainly, placing a heavy ink mark under it, and ornamenting the same with a succession of loops and twists.

Phillip Livingstone, Jr., lived in Albany. He became a member of the Continental Congress in 1774 and served in the equally distinguished Congress of 1776, and gave his vote for Independence. He continued in the National councils until 1778, when his life was suddenly terminated. The autograph of Mr. Livingstone is extremely rare and in the form of a letter, so rare as to be almost an unknown quantity. A good specimen should be worth \$50.

Francis Lewis was a Welshman, coming to this country in 1735. He became distinguished in the French and Indian war, and early espoused the cause of America as against British tyranny. He was chosen unanimously to the Congress of 1775 and was continued in it the following year, voting for and signing the Declaration. One of the seven Signers the writer lacks of completing his set, is Mr. Lewis. A good letter should be worth \$20.00 and is about the only form in which he may be found. His name is always abbreviated, "Fra. Lewis." He sunk into poverty after the war, having lost his fortune for his country, and died in 1803 at the age of ninety.

Lewis Morris is a name which a collector will lack for a long time. If not always. Next to Mr. Lynch, Mr. Gwinnett and perhaps Mr. Hall, he is the rarest of the Signers. A short letter recently sold for \$85.00 in an auction sale and the bidding for it was very lively. The writer has a good letter signed only, but never hopes to own an autograph letter. The name is becoming scarcer every year and soon must go among the "unobtainables." His sons were at in the Continental army, one of whom bore his name. He died in 1798 at the age of 71.

With this we end the second paper of the signers. In the next, we will speak of the men from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and the rare names among the Southern colonies.

(To be continued.)

Stamps, How to Buy and Sell.

This book, by the well-known author, H. J. Miron, contains much valuable information for both dealer and collector, and is having a very large sale. Every Philatelist should have a copy, and by a careful perusal of its contents he would know many things about the science of Philately that he never knew before. Price, post free, 10 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H.,
as Second Class Matter.

FEBRUARY, 1887.

OUR AGENTS.

W. A. Tuck, Box 602, Nashua, N. H.
Charles P. Wilcomb, Lake Village, N. H.
Geo. H. Richmond, 5 Beekman St. New York.
Robert W. Manier, Drawer, D, Binghamton, N. Y.
E. B. Cornwell, Rubicon, Wis.
Amateur Newspaper Agency, Davidsburgh, Pa.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

To Whom it may Concern.

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H., Feb., 23, 1887.

When this issue of the CURIOSITY
WORLD is published and mailed, it will
make over 20,000 copies circulated from
No. 1 to 6, inclusive.

JOHN M. HUBBARD.

BELKNAP, SS. Feb., 23, 1887.
Then personally appeared before me John M.
Hubbard, publisher of the CURIOSITY WORLD, and
made oath that the above statement by him sub-
mitted is true.

E. H. BLAISDELL, Justice of the Peace.

We have just issued the "Stamp Collec-
tors of the World," a 20 page book with
heavy covers, each page being 7 inches
long and 2 columns wide. It is printed
on the same kind of paper as the WORLD
and contains the addresses of over 1,000
bona fide Stamp Collectors in all parts of
the world. Every collector should own a
copy. Price, post free, 10 cents. If this
notice is marked, it means that your ad-
dress is in the book and that we should be
pleased to mail you a copy on receipt of
the required amount for the same. Ad-
dress this office.

Subscriptions may commence with any
issue after number three. We cannot
supply Nos. 1, 2 or 3.

The CURIOSITY WORLD gives more
reading matter than any other 25 cent
Curiosity paper published.

The Empire State Philatelist has added
"and Coin and Curiosity Collector" to its
name. Long names are all the go, just
now.

To those Secretaries of Philatelic Soci-
eties who will send us brief reports of their
meetings, promptly, we will place on
our complimentary list.

J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.,
wants reliable agents to sell stamps from
approval sheets. Never mind about ask-
ing for an agency, however, unless you
can give A. No. 1 references.

We are willing to give every Curiosity
Collector a sample copy of this paper, and
only one. We keep a record of every sam-
ple copy sent out, and if you want to see
us again, you must subscribe.

The publisher of this paper desires to
purchase for spot cash, complete files and
bound volumes of papers relating to
stamps, coins and natural history. If you
have any for sale let us hear from you.

For only 25 cents we will send post free
to any address, one copy each of the
"Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the
World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and
Sell." Every collector should own a set
of these books, and now is the time to
buy them.

We have just purchased several files of
Vol. I, of the Foreign Stamp Collectors'
News published in England, in 1883-84.
The file contains over 100 pages of inter-
esting Philatelic literature, is elegantly
bound in cloth with gilt side stamp. Price
\$1. Address this office.

We have a few files of the Granite
State Philatelist published by us in eight-
een eighty-two to eighty-four which we
will sell at the following prices: Vol. I,
twelve numbers, complete, Sept. eighteen
eighty-two to Sept. eighteen eighty-three,
one hundred and fifty-six pages, forty
cents. Vol. II. twelve numbers, com-
plete, Sept. eighteen eighty-three to Sept.
eighteen eighty-four, one hundred sixty-
eight pages, thirty-five cents. Vol. III.
Nos. one and two, twenty-four pages, all
that were issued, ten cents. Or, the com-
plete file, three hundred forty-eight
pages, seventy-five cents. There are only
a few files left, and those who wish them
should purchase them at once. Address
J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DUBBIN.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—The 1 shilling
stamp has changed color to gray.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—The three cent
postal card is now printed red on buff.

LAGOS.—Three new values are announ-
ced, viz: 2 shillings and 6 pence, dark
blue; 5 shillings, blue; 10 shillings,
brown.

NEW REPUBLIC.—Besides those already
announced there are two other values,
viz: 3 pence and four pence, both printed
in lilac on buff.

PORTUGAL.—The 5 reis is said to have
been changed to green.

SAMOA.—A new issue of stamps is an-
nounced for this much abused island.
Thus far three new values have been seen,
as follows: 3 pence, orange, 4 pence,
blue and 1 shilling, red.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A new type of the
3 pence is reported, printed in olive.

Darrach & von Utassy are about to pub-
lish the *German Town Philatelist*.

F. W. Finzer & Co., of Louisville, Ky.,
are about to publish the "Collectors' Com-
panion."

H. E. Cowdin, of Rockford, Mich. will
publish the *Peninsular Philatelist* about
April 15th.

"Your paper has paid me better than
any journal I have ever advertised in."—
Frank L. Willcutt.

Country Postmaster to Clerk. "What
in the world is it that smells so, here?"
Clerk; "I don't know: unless it is the
dead letters."

We have purchased a quantity of Latin-
in's "Oologists' Hand Books" and can
supply them at 15 cents each, post free.
Address this office.

Just think of it! 70 cents pays for a
year's subscription to the *Stamp World*,
Youth's Ledger and *CURIOSITY WORLD*!
Address this office.

Fifteen cents pays for this paper six
months and we guarantee to give more
reading in six months than the average Phi-
latelic paper gives in one year.

"I have received more answers to my
exchange notice in the CURIOSITY WORLD
than I have in three other papers put to-
gether. C. J. Vercouter, Chicago.

Anyone having any U. S. Department,
old issues, or match, medicine, Docu-
ments, Playing cards &c. stamps they
desire to sell for cash should write to this
office.

The *Stamp World* has added, and *Wise &
Otherwise* to its name and is giving much
more reading matter than formerly. Mr.
Collins is bound to make it a fine
paper, and is succeeding tip top.

We have made arrangements so that we
can furnish the STAMP WORLD, YOUTH'S
LEDGER and the CURIOSITY WORLD one
year for only 70 cents. The regular price
is just an even dollar, and no one can
make thirty cents easier than by accepting
this offer. Address this office.

OUR REVIEW TABLE.

We have received of Mr. George E.
Fownes, of 134 Park Row, New York, an
excellent medal in white metal, of the
Grand Winter Carnival held in Burlington
Vt. The toboggan and iceboat are repre-
sented in all their glory and any lover of
medals should own one of them.

Patrick Chalmers sent us a complete
unused set of the new issue of English
stamps with his compliments, a short time
ago. We hinged the letter to our album:
thus having an excellent autograph letter
and a fine set of stamps together. Mr.
Chalmers will please, accept our thanks
for the same.

We have received from C. H. Nunn,
of Bury, S. Edmunds, England, a copy of
"The Study of Philately" by Arthur J.
Palethorpe, "Nunn's Philatelic Annual"
and "History of the Mulready Envelope,"
"by T. Martin Wears. The books are very
interesting and contain much valuable
information.

Patrick Chalmers, son of James Chal-
mers the originator of the adhesive post-
age stamps, has favored us with a copy of
Palmer's Musical Album, containing the
"Philatelic Polka," "Postage Stamp
Waltz" and the "Collectors' Quadrille."
The Album is dedicated to Mr. Chalmers
is nicely gotten up and the music is com-
posed by Frances Mary Palmer.



No 1 of the WORLD
Packets of Foreign
Stamps contains 110
varieties of stamps,
(No U. S.) including
Japan, Mexico, India,
Brazil, Prince Ed-
ward Island, Jamaica,
Hong Kong, Egypt,
Canada, registered, Switzerland, Ausser
Kurs, (unused,) Finland, etc. Price, post
free, 27 cents, or with the WORLD three
months on trial, 33 cents. J. M. Hubbard,
Lake Village, N. H.

Meeting of the N. E. Philatelic Union.

The February meeting of the New
England Philatelic Union was held at 730
Washington St., Boston, Mass., Satur-
day Feb. 5th. President Holton called
the meeting to order at 2:10, p. m.

The following new members were ad-
mitted:

G. E. Howe, 7 Bowdoin St., Boston.

Henry F. King,

E. L. Whitney, 5 St. Charles St.,

Nathaniel W. Appleton, Dorchester.

President Holton read several commu-
nications from the former Secretary, L.
H. Patterson. His own letters were
evidence enough to convict him, as he
made no two statements alike and it was
moved by Mr. Fetridge that he be expell-
ed from the Union. Accepted by a unani-
mous vote.

Fred A. Noyes made a motion to have
Certificates of Membership issued to all
members in good standing. Accepted.
Also voted that the Counterfeit Detector
should receive 3 cents each for all stamps
examined up to 25. After that number, 2
cents each. Voted that the President
shall call special meetings at such
time and place as he may see fit, at the
request of six members. He shall also
appoint a chairman of said meeting who
will select a secretary. A report of the
proceedings shall be sent the President.
No business of the Union can be transac-
ted at these meetings.

Chas. I. Thayer, John M. Hubbard and
W. D. King were appointed Executive
Committee. It was voted to appoint a
committee to draw up a new set of By-
laws to be presented at the next meeting.
President appointed Chas. I. Thayer, W.
D. King and Henry F. King.

Number present 16. Meeting adjourned
at 4:15 p. m.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, Secretary.

On Jan. 21st, the "Charleston (S. C.)
Philatelic Society" was organized, and
the following officers were elected for the
ensuing year:

President, J. H. Mensing, Jr.

Secretary, G. J. Luhn, Jr.

Treasurer, J. H. Klinck.

A deferred meeting was held on Feb.
11, Messrs Mensing, Klinck, Forest, Hunt
and Luhn were present. Minutes of last
meeting read and approved. Several am-
endments were made to the Constitution.
The following gentlemen were elected
honorary members: H. L. Calman, L. W.
Durbin, W. G. Wilden, Jr., C. H. Me-
keel, R. R. Rogers, E. B. Sterling, John
M. Hubbard and T. C. Watkins. A com-
mittee consisting of Mensing and Luhn
were appointed to get up the membership
cards for the Society. There were two
applications for membership since the last
meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p. m.
G. J. Luhn, Jr. Sec.

On the evenings of the 9th, and 10th, of
February, Thos. L. Buckner & Co., of
New York sold a fine collection of Stamps
and Envelopes, the property of a Phila-
delphia collector. A fine collection of
stamps and an almost complete collection
of envelopes was catalogued. There were
about thirty persons present. The bid-
ding was spirited at times and some good
prices were realized. Following are a few
of them.

Revenue Stamps:—\$200, 1st, issue,
\$7.50. \$200, 2nd, issue, \$10. \$50, 2nd,
issue, \$5.

Postage Stamps:—Baton Rouge, 5c, sold
for \$63. Bolivia, 1871, 500c, black, \$36.-
50. India, 2a, green, perforated, unused,
\$33. Trinidad, 1847, "Lady McLeod"
Local, \$25. Roumania, (Moldavia,) 1858,
54 paras blue on green, \$24. France, 1849,
1 franc, Venetian Red, \$9.50. Nashville,
5c, brown, \$6. Buenos Ayres, 1858, 3p,
green, \$5.10.

U. S. Locals:—Bloods, man stepping
over houses, type 3, \$5.30. Hartford Mail,
black on yellow, 4 varieties, each sold for
\$6. City Letter Express mail, 1 cent red
on white, \$5.

Foreign Envelopes:—Mauritius, 1863, 1
shilling, yellow on thin blue paper, \$50.
Finland, 1860, 10 k carmine, \$25. Confed-
erate States official envelopes, inscription
printed over 1853, 3 cent red on buff, \$15.
Similar inscription over 1853, 10 c green
on buff, \$15. Ceylon, 1858, 10 p orange,
\$9.05. 2 sh. blue, \$7.80. 6d. violet brown,
\$5.80. 5p. deep brown, \$5.05.

U. S. Envelopes:—1853, 3c, white, broad
label, \$49. 1853, 3c, white, octagon ends,
\$47. 1857, 6c, red on buff, (official) \$42.
1857, red on white, (official) \$41. 1878, 2c
white, No. 2. Die D, \$15. 1857, 4c, (1c
and 3c) white, \$12. 1853, 3c, white, broad
label, note size, \$10.25. 1878, 1c, orange,
(this is a very curious envelope, being
double.) \$10.25. 1870, 2c, amber, ruled,
\$7. Horner's Stamped Envelopes, of the
United States, 2nd and revised edition,
\$5.25.

Gustav Aue.

Small favors are thankfully received:
larger ones in proportion. If you haven't
a quarter you can spare for a year's sub-
scription, send us fifteen cents for six
months.

A Historic Document.

The history of war everywhere, and in
all ages is filled with touching events and
incidents, bringing sadness and desola-
tion to many households. Among those
which occurred during the Revolutionary
struggle, from the massacre at Lexington,
through that long, cold winter at Valley
Forge, until Yorktown decided the con-
test, none will awaken a warmer sympa-
thy than the fate of young Andre.

Saratoga had been fought and won and
along line of minor engagements rendered
the final result possible. The almost dis-
couraged colonists had become jubilant
once again. Something must be done or
the royal power in America would be
gone forever. West Point was looked
upon as the key to the problem, the loss
of which would prove a blow from which
they could never recover. For this pur-
pose communication was opened by Sir
Henry Clinton, with the commander for
the delivery of the fortress to the enemy.
The story of Arnold's treachery is too
well known to require more than a pass-
ing notice. Major John Andre was de-
tailed to perfect the plot and an interview
was held by him with Arnold. But, as
the poet says—

"The best laid plans of mice and men
Gang aft aglee:—"

and so it proved. Upon his return, An-
dre was captured by the three militia
men; Paulding, Williams and Van Wart.
While Arnold escaped, Andre was tried by
court martial, found guilty and sentenc-
ed to be hanged. Every effort was made
to save his life, but it proved unavailing
and he was executed at Tappan, Oct. 2nd,
1780.

Viewing his crime, (if crime it was,) at
the present time, softened by the lapse
of a hundred years, we can feel but pity
for his untimely fate and wish that it
could have been averted. The massacre
at Fort Griswold and the death of brave
young Nathan Hale was a most bitter
atonement. Of the two, comparison is
odious. Andre dying with the respect of
those whom a cruel war had rendered
enemies and Arnold, hated and shunned
even by those who purchased his birth-
right.

ANDRE'S WILL.

[Through the kindness of Mr. Gustave Aue, of
New York City, we are enabled to publish his
will, made about the commencement of the Revolution.—
Ed.]

The following is my last will and tes-
tament and I appoint as executors thereto,
Mary Louisa Andre, my mother; David
Andre, my uncle; Andrew Girardot, my
uncle; John Andre, my uncle. To each
of the above executors I give fifty pounds.

I give to Mary Hannah Andre, my sis-
ter; seven hundred pounds.

I give to Louisa Catherine Andre, my
sister; seven hundred pounds.

I give to William Lewis Andre, my
brother; seven hundred pounds.

But the condition on which I give the
above-mentioned sums to my aforesaid
brother and sisters are, that each of them
shall pay to Mary Louisa Andre, my
mother, the sum of ten pounds yearly
during her life.

I give to Walter Ewer Jr., of Dyer's
Court, Aldermanbury, one hundred
pounds.

I give to John Ewer Jr., of Lincoln's
Inn, one hundred pounds.

I desire a ring, value fifty pounds, to
be given to my friend, Peter Boissier, of
the 11th Dragoons.

I desire that Walter Ewer Jr., of Dyer's
Court Aldermanbury, have the first in-
spection of my papers, letters, manu-
scripts. I mean that he have the first in-
spection of them, with liberty to destroy
or detain whatever he thinks proper: and
I desire that my watch be given to him.

And I lastly give and bequeath to my
brother, John Lewis Andre, the residue
of all my effects whatsoever.

Witness my hand and seal, Staten
Island, in the Province of New York,
North America, 7th June, 1777.

JOHN ANDRE.

{ SEAL }

Captain in the 26th Regiment of Foot.
N. B. The currency alluded to in this
will is sterling money of Great Britain. I
desire nothing more than my wearing ap-
parel be sold by public auction.

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The Piliated Woodpecker.

(*Ceophloeus pileatus*.)

BY L. O. PINDAR, PRES. Y. O. A.

The Piliated Woodpecker, Logcock, Black Woodcock, Woodcock or whatever you call him is, I believe, rather scarce in the north except in the heavily-wooded regions of Maine and as I have had several opportunities of studying its habits, I will tell the readers of the CURIOSITY WORLD what I know about it. The bird's general color is black with a white stripe down the neck and a large white patch on the wings. The male has a scarlet crest and cheek patch. The female has only a small portion of its crest scarlet and no cheek patch. They average about 13 inches in length and about 25-28 inch alar extent, thus being of about the same size as the crow. The eggs are white, 1 1-4 inch long by an inch through, five to eight in number and are laid in the hollow of a tree, generally, if not always excavated by the birds themselves. They are shy and wary and are usually found in deep swamps where the water-moccasin and rattlesnake dwell and the hoot and scream of the owls and the wailing cry of the panther is heard. Still, I have seen one or two on the outskirts of town, within long gun-shot range of four or five houses. Like most birds it is very hard to approach, but it will often fly down near to you. I have stood behind a tree and watched a Piliated Woodpecker pecking or rather hammering away not thirty feet off. Mr. C. J. Pennock, writing of the birds of Chester Co., Penn., in the Dec. Oologist says: "A southern writer observed this species feeding on grubs, beetles, etc., obtained from the ground by scratching, and dissected one that had eaten two immense caterpillars." This species is undoubtedly beneficial to man, from the number of wood-destroying grubs it must necessarily eat.

Our Smallest Birds.

BY WILL M. CLEMMENS.

Many boys and girls have seen humming birds darting hither and thither on a Summer's day, but few of my readers have ever captured one of these beautiful little creatures. There is no group of birds so interesting to the naturalist as the humming bird, it being the smallest in size, the most gorgeously beautiful in color, and nearly the most abundant in species of any single family of birds. They are found only on the continent and islands of America, and are found all the way from the Arctic regions of the far north, to Patagonia in the south. They are more numerous in Central America than in any other section of the continent.

There are over three hundred known species of the humming bird family, and new ones heretofore unknown to naturalists are being discovered every year. They are called *humming* birds on account of the buzzing sounds which they produce with their wings. Dr. Wood, the eminent English naturalist says that so characteristic is the humming sound that it is not precisely the same in any two species, and in many instances it is so decided in its tone that a practiced and observant ear can often detect the species of a humming bird by the sound it produces in its flight. One of the common species in North America is the ruby throat, so called on account of the metallic feathers that blaze with ruby lustre upon its throat.

The humming birds arrive in Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania about May 10th, each year, and usually come in pairs. About the first week in June they commence to build their nests, which are composed of soft down taken from the stems of ferns. The birds usually cover the outside of the nest with lichens, thus giving it the appearance of a mossy knot; so much so that I have spent nearly an hour looking for a nest after I had discovered by the actions of the birds which tree it was in. Another curious fact is that of sixteen nests found in my vicinity in the past three years, all were found south of the main part of the tree. In other words the nest was on branches facing the south. The eggs are two in number, white in color, and nearly elliptical in shape, being about the same size at both ends. The naturalist Audubon once discovered a curious habit connected with their nesting. He had frequently observed, while watching for their nests, that the ruby-throats after leaving their station, shot suddenly and perpendicularly in the air until they became invisible. At last he had the pleasure of seeing the female bird fall as from the sky above, directly upon the spot where she had built her nest, so that this curious habit of ascending and descending in the air seems to be used by the bird for the express purpose of trying to conceal the precise location of her nest. Next Summer, if some of my young readers will devote a few spare hours to the study of these charming little creatures, they will be amply rewarded.

Some Birds of the Missouri River Region.

BY CHAS. F. MORRISON.

LARK BUNTING. (*Calamospiza bicolor*). This is my favorite bird of the prairie. It has some of the habits of the Lark, combined with those of the Chat, together making a most delightful bird. Breeding in colonies upon the open plains, it can be seen in all kinds of weather, rising high in air, uttering a beautiful song, then returning to the ground it rests upon some convenient bush or weed-stalk, only to again repeat the manoeuvre almost immediately. In color it resembles somewhat the Bobolink; the male is black, with white patches on its wings, tail feathers often marked with white; female, brown above and streaked, whitish below and also streaked. They prefer for their breeding place such prairie as is moist and having a good growth of grass and prairie flowers. The nest is placed upon the ground, in some the top being flush, in others about half the nest being below the surface, a very light, flimsy affair of coarse grasses and broken weed-stalks, lined with fine material of the same kind. The eggs are four or five of a delicate bluish-green, similar to those of the bluebird, sometimes, but seldom spotted, as is often the case in green or blue eggs. They invariably breed in colonies (other writers per contra,) although it is not an uncommon thing to find single pairs in favorable places. Two miles due east of Ft. Laramie, Wyo., is a tract of moist land where they breed by hundreds, and the air is filled with the male birds, although the female is very seldom seen at this time. After the young take to wing the males gradually assume the attire of the females, and form immense flocks which leave on the fall migration in September.

SWAINSON'S HAWK. (*Buteo Swainsoni*). Found breeding abundantly along all the creek bottoms near Fort McKinney, Wyoming, and is more or less common throughout the whole region. It is not partial to thickly wooded portions but often builds its large, bulky nest in isolated trees with not another for a great distance. The nest on account of its large size can be seen a great ways off. I found one nest on the 12th of Sept., 1884 with one young nearly ready to fly, which looks as if two broods are raised sometimes. I took this one home and kept it until late in November, having heard that they were hard to tame, and wished to try the experiment. I began to think I was having good success, but finally gave it up as a hopeless case. For the first few days it would eat nothing, but after going hungry for a week I cut up some beef and forced it down its throat. A single taste was enough, and I had no further trouble except to keep it supplied, and considering that I had then four Great-horned Owls, two Long-eared Owls and three Red-tails, it was all I could do to keep them supplied. It was "nip and tuck" between the "Hooters" and the present species for first place on the eating question. I would throw in the bodies of all birds skinned and now and then a prairie chicken and all would disappear but the legs, a few of the largest wing feathers and a clean skeleton. At one time I gave them a whole Sage Cock and it was put away in less than thirty minutes. All these birds were kept in one coop and were on the most familiar terms. When hungry this bird would utter a peculiar, melancholy whistle, and, after receiving a bird would retire to a corner and no matter how hungry, would not eat while I was there. Late in November I gave it its freedom and it remained in the vicinity of its coop for a few days and then disappeared, but not before a few of my next neighbor's hens had paid for its imprisonment. As a rule they feed upon gophers, small rabbits, etc., and would not attack a bird as large as a hen. As it had been fed upon such diet while imprisoned, I think it must have been a grade higher than *B. swainsoni*, as a rule. Although the nest is usually placed in trees, I have found them placed upon ledges of rocks, on the stone cliffs in western Nebraska, but here trees are scarce and all hawks build in similar places, under like circumstances.

MARSH HAWK. (*Circus hudsonius*). Abundant in all parts of the Missouri region. Ornithologists do not agree as to the number of eggs to a clutch, giving as many as eleven to thirteen. (Vide Brewer, No. Am. Oology, Page 115, Smithsonian, 1858). But this is all humbug and cannot be verified. Extreme sets of seven are said to have been taken, and upon good evidence, but as a rule they are probably four or five. Eggs are both plain and marked, more often plain, and in this respect resemble the Cooper's Hawk (*B. cooperi*), but smaller and only in rare case are the eggs as large. Dependence cannot always be put upon the assertions of closet oologists as regards color and markings of eggs, as many change very perceptibly after blowing,

while some change in the nest. The eggs of this species when first laid are a greenish-blue facing to a dirty white, which is generally supposed to be the true color of the eggs by those who have not had experience in the field. To collectors who put most of their time in the field, the sayings and writings of those who collect about home and obtain a large collection by buying and exchange, is most amusing in many cases. So don't, young oologists, take the word of such as "gospel truth," but find out all you can from actual experience yourself and if you see anything not as laid down by the authorities, let us all know it. Don't keep your notes in your note-book to be seen only by a few of your friends, let the whole ornithological world have the benefit. We can all push our pound and we must remember the saying that

"Little drops of water,

Little grains of sand,"—

etc. Let us all help with our little "drops" and "grains," hoping that we may all assist toward making up that mighty ocean of science, Ornithology and Oology. If the present army of so-called "scientists" wish to form this ocean by themselves, the amateur can, at least have the credit of doing something towards a small gulf or bay.

An Early Expedition.

BY L. T. MEYER.

My special pleasure is to take early trips, and I will tell you about a trip I took last year. On April 16, 1886, my friend George Irish and myself started on a trip which we had planned for some time. It was about 9 a. m., when we left home, bound for a thirty mile trip, after shouldering our guns and other implements of oological warfare. At this time there were no leaves on the trees and by separating we could easily cover half a mile, as the crow's and hawk's nests show very plainly. At the end of the first day's tramp we found seven common crow's nests *cornu frugivorus*. Each nest contained five eggs, with but one exception, and that contained six. They average about 1.71x1.20, and were from a light sea green irregularly blotched and spotted with brown to a very dark brown with purple reflections. The nests were built of sticks and twigs mixed with wool, grapevines, bark and leaves. I found one that was composed almost entirely of wool. We also found a Great Horned Owl's nest. It was situated on the top of an oak stump about fifteen feet from the ground. We discovered the bird by seeing her tail projecting over the side of the stump. There were two eggs in the nest, pure white in color, and measured 2.27x1.94. Incubation was well advanced. Towards evening I found a Shore or Horned Lark's nest, by scaring the bird from it. It was situated on the ground in a hollow, and was composed of grasses and lined with thistle down. There were four eggs of a light drab thickly spotted with brown. They measure .90x.65.

After passing the night in a German's hut and listening to his descriptions of his "Fatherland" in his native tongue, we were in excellent condition to do justice to our subject. We spent the morning in trying to shoot ducks, as they were migrating to their northern homes, had our dinner and started for the railroad crossing, three miles away. While on the way I found another crow's nest, and on climbing up to it found four eggs of the ordinary size and one "rooster" or "runt" egg it being about the size of a robin's egg. We came to a heavy strip of timber at the edge of a lot of sand which changed with every wind. Some of the trees were covered up to their topmost branches, and the next day if the wind changed there would be none there. While going through this piece of woods I heard a low cry and thinking there might be another owl's nest near explored all the hollow trees, but without success. A little further on we came to a nest in the top of a tree about fifty feet from the ground. It looked so transparent that I thought there was nothing in it, but finally concluded to climb the tree. When I started two hawks came flying around me in a very daring manner uttering shrill cries. We had used up all of our ammunition, so we could not kill them. When I reached the nest I found two eggs in it. By seeing the eggs and bird I easily identified them as being Cooper's Hawk. The eggs were a bluish green color about 1.50x2.10 and were unspotted. After a supper of crackers we waited at the crossing until the train arrived and then we were soon at home, much pleased with the result of our expedition.

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Interesting Notes on Animal Life.

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

When one disputes geological evidences, as many do, what are we to think? Are we, who read geological evidence as clearly as though it were a revelation of to-day rather than testimonies written by the Omniscient inestimable numbers of years ago—, over and above acute in our comprehension; or are they who refuse to believe that such a clear conception is a possibility, and who consider that we are laboring under impressions born of misplaced imagination, slothful to acknowledge such revelations nature offers, because of its seeming antagonistic effect to their deeply-seated Puritanical ideas? It is hardly the place here to enter into discussions that must surely follow such answers that would be required to give the substance of the above. However clearly may we comprehend such teachings the startling fact that in reality we know but nothing, is constantly before us. It is difficult to comprehend that under circumstances, conditions and many other obstacles ever present as we have evidence of, life could be sustained, as it was "in the beginning," as taught by geology.

We are not accustomed to think of life existing under influences different from what we are capable of experiencing. We are by nature, or example, rather hasty in forming our beliefs and unbeliefs. Some have been heard to say "they only believe what they can see," which belief often leads to complicated statements. One man, on making the above remark, was asked if he believed he had any brains, and his answer came quick and decisive, "Of course I do." "Have you ever seen them?" The temper exhibited at being thus caught, showed that he saw the folly of his belief. Only the habit of wondering, digesting and assimilating facts has become a fixed habit and a willingness to give up any old idea that may have been considered as a truth, providing the reason for such an alteration is sufficiently strong; will anything like a comprehensive view of life, as it was, be obtained? Obtaining such a view, be content with what pleasure it may give you and do not strive to impress every one else with your views. They are untutored and are in no condition to change what few ideas they may have, for the new, if indeed, they have any at all. It was only through meditation that you reached the point of interpretation: and by interpretation you reach solid facts.

Life abounds now, even where science has said to the contrary. Life abounds now in substances brought to our eyes daily under circumstances that our senses were not accustomed to conceive. It is only of recent that the mass of mould was known in its beautiful form. It is only of recent date that the slimy sediment in our vinegar cruets, known as "mother of vinegar," was recognized to be the habitat of a wiggling, animated world. It is only of recent date that the sour-paste or dough, was known to exhibit scenes of activity; and now, when a piece of sour paste from a cup is moistened with a drop of water an untiring surprise results; when, aided by the microscope you are called to examine this mass of life, so perfect in all its detail. How long is it since even the cold expanse of northern snowbeds were found to be inhabited by animated existences? It is only yesterday that the long prevailing idea concerning the desolate waste of the ocean bed at great depths, has given place to the fact that it teems with a world of living matter, forms of which we are unacquainted with and are incapable of existing under our heavens; thriving and multiplying under their own. Even the ooze of the ocean, regarded as a scum, is forming beds of material, that in some future time may be stone and is a world of life in its self.

When the perfections of artificial assisting eyes in the shape of microscope has become completed, and the mind is searching for new wonders; what better field is offered than to magnify sound-waves as we have done light-waves? Revelations of such a character would result that the world, after recovering from the first impression of surprise and unbelief, would be more startled than were the heavens to give birth to a shower of golden fire. In the case of the fiery shower, the increased rapidity of pulses would be limited to a given area, with only a stray person affected here and there, outside of a given area. But should the power of modulating such sound waves, that now, are never translated, owing to their lack of power to affect the auditory nerves, be made; the effects from such a triumphant success would reach the entire civilized world; attracting the individual attention of thousands of investigators, and many thousands of non-investigators. What delightful conversations would be eagerly listened to by the scientist, after hav-

ing placed his insects or other material upon the stage, not of the microscope and applying the eye for an enlarged object; but upon the earoscope and applying the ear for an increase (?) of voice.

A man from the country on being brought to the coast applied his powers diligently to the study of oceanic life, and being an acute naturalist he discovered many things. His letters home were interesting accounts of his work in detail; but owing to only a short sojourn at the sea-side, he carried away the remembrance of many thing is not quite as they should be, yet he "saw and believed all that he saw." The powers of penetration being blunted, he could not foresee the changes yet to come, and only believed as far as the powers of his naturalistic every-day education could carry him. He thought possible subsequent changes might occur, because in past experiences he had already seen metamorphoses. He seemed particularly struck by the embryonic appearance of an ichthyonic animal, yet not being successful in discovering its connection with any other form, he only could believe in that of animal life, as he saw "An ungain organism, about three-quarters of an inch in length, with a huge heart-shaped bag, as bulky as all the rest of its body, protruding below its abdomen. In this, was, by a previous process, enough food collected to last the individual some number of days." This proved to be the embryonic development of the salmon. Miller gives a beautiful description of this in a very similar manner only more complete. He says: "The salmon on its escape from the egg, is a little monster less than an inch in length, with a huge heart-shaped bag, as bulky as all the rest of his body, depending from its abdomen. In this bag provident nature has packed up for it, in lieu of a nurse, food for five weeks; and, moving about in his shallow pool, with his knapsack slung fast to it, reminds one disposed to be fanciful, save that its burden is on the wrong side, of Scottish soldiers in the olden time summoned to serve their King in war."

"Each on his back, a slender store,
His forty days' provisions bore,
As ancient statutes tell."

But the majority of us, only accustomed to the salmon in its mature state are amazed at its appearance as above quoted, even apt to disbelieve that the salmon starts out on its career, with enough food in its belly to last until capable of feeding himself, by his own captures.

It is one of the pleasantest of occupations to spend evenings at the microscope; it is certainly of the most wonderful. You may realize to the full extent that in "the survival of the fittest," much is going on that we know nothing about. Requiring a recreation some fine afternoon, take your collecting bottle and net and make for some sluggish brook or stagnant pond; or, if in a marshy region, select some small lagoon. By scraping the back of weeds and rushes; scraping the bottoms of the ponds you secure food for interpretation. Besides pleasure and invigorating exercise, you have in your collecting bottle an invisible world. A world that will give unbounded delight as you allow it to be gradually unfolded by microscopical revelation. In its magnified condition, did I say? Yes, but do not, do not endeavor to see how large your microscope can make these bodies, as nearly every amateur endeavors to do. Be content with your lowest powers, use the half and quarter inch objectives, invariably and only honor the finer powers when compelled, for the examination of actual invisibilities.

You have all observed on a summer's day, when looking across a pond, a peculiar lightning-like movement of a bug as he darts here and there on the surface of the water. This is only an embryonic, so to speak, development of a future mosquito. A very similar appearing animal is to be found in brackish waters which is called the "water tiger." Having obtained some of these animals, place them in a life slide upon your stage, not both at the same time; but, say you put in the water tiger first and watch his movements in becoming acquainted with his new quarters. Now, on placing in your young mosquitoes, if you had power enough to see the countenance of our water tiger, you would observe his eyes gloat, and a sinister expression cross his countenance that foretells of the fate awaiting our innocent singer, the mosquito. But the transparency of his body does not allow us to see his pulse grow quicker and his body distend. Every thing is as clear as glass and even as his outside existence is discernable, so are the internal organs exposed. Circulation can almost be traced. Our tiger waits not long in sensational indulgences, but darts for his victim. In a moment it is in his mouth, as far as the swallowing capacity allows; and then begins the act of mastication. We watch the dissolution with eager interest; the timid cry Oh! Oh!! Each particle as

it goes down the throat into the stomach is plainly seen. But our tiger claims some show of daintiness. There are parts that seem distasteful to him as the shell of a lobster is to us; while busily chewing, are ejected out of the corners of his mouth; at the same time firmly holding with his jaws the wiggling remnants of our once happy skimmer. You will watch, breathlessly, this feeding go on until all edible portions are consumed. After seeing such a meal as this for several times, I still find it impossible to imagine how it must feel to have our hands tied; and a vigorous, kicking, squirming animal partly in our mouth; having to hold him by our jaws, at the same time chewing and swallowing his remains. The sensation would be anything but pleasant to us; but to our friend now under consideration, if hungry, will eagerly search for another one. It is best to keep your tiger in a hungry state before exhibiting his voracious powers.

This fact, in all its novelty is tame, in comparison with others that occur to one during a life of research. When the marvels of, and the results produced by diatoms, foraminifera, polycystine, and other microscopic remains are considered, we are forcibly led to acknowledge our ignorance of existing worlds, and marvel at the magnitude of results produced. It is only of late that the life of the ocean-bed is being brought to light. Previously it was taught that at certain depths life did not exist; and, that as light penetrates to a depth of 50 fathoms; beyond, plant life was an impossibility. This "antibiotic" theory is now disproved. The science of deep sea soundings is as intensely interesting as any other study. An animal at the depth of 1,500 fathoms must support a pressure of one ton to the square inch; and I presume would experience similar sensations when ascending nearer the surface, as we do in reaching higher altitudes. Off Cape St. Vincent, at a depth of 1090 fathoms, the Challenger while using the trawl, obtained a specimen of the rare *Cystosoma Neptun*; a large amphipad crustacean. The *Cystosoma* is a *pleagio* animal, probably retiring during the day, but coming to the surface at night occasionally. The animal presents a remarkable appearance. It is perfectly transparent, each minute blood-vessel being perfectly visible, and all the internal organs being as though encased in glass. The food may be watched as it enters this crustacean mouth; its progress and alterations are to be plainly seen by the naked eye, until it leaves the body. One observer thinks it remarkable that, in like proportion to the other organs visible, the *conscience* is not also visible.

The true man, true to himself as to his Maker, may never grumble at the sameness of creation. There are many delightful things we may never, in our present condition understand or even dream of, but in our metamorphosed condition, let us trust that all will be clear.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange Notices not exceeding twenty-four words will be inserted for subscribers only, free of charge. Over 24 words, one cent per word.

I wish to purchase for cash or good exchange, a complete file of *Harper's Young People* and *Golden Days* bound or unbound. Also books relating to stamps, coins, birds, natural history and all kinds of curiosities. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

For 200 square-cut envelope stamps I will give a brand new Gem stamp album containing space for 600 stamps. John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

For 100 assorted match, medicine or document stamps I will give a year's subscription to this paper. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Coins for the same, send list of duplicates and wants. Mart Steffan, Memphis, Mo.

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3 var P E L coins for special delivery stamps; 4 var for number 1 of this paper; I want odd numbers and complete files of stamp and coin papers. M A MacDonald, Eldon, P. E. I., Canada.

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Pair of snow shoes, revolver, Indian relics, coins, curiosities, skates, minerals and postmarks for an International stamp album. E U Marston, Amesbury, Mass.

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Philately! A Science.

BY A. PALETTE.

(Continued.)

Fourthly: By the relation it bears to politics. The stamps of Great Britain and colonies, show that the governing power of the country is a kingdom; by the stamps of France, we can trace the Republic of 1849-51, the Presidency of 1852, the Empire of 1853-70 and the last Republic of 1870,—the Bordeaux die to the Peace and Commerce set now in use. So with the Spanish stamps, on those of 1850 to '63 we have the sovereign, Queen Isabella, which was that of a kingdom. Between 1868 and 1869, that of a Provisional government, with the stamps of 1866-68 surcharged "Habitado por la Nation" and "Habitado por la Junta Revolucionaria" and "H. P. N." in oval in black and dark blue. In 1870 the set of 15 stamps with a rough impression appeared, the head of Liberty on each. For two years this Republic stood, when in 1872-73 a kingdom was established with King Amadus on the throne. In 1873-74 that of a Republic, while at the same time a kingdom with Don Carlos in the regal chair. From 1875 to the present time, a Kingdom with Don Alfonso as king, but what the next year will bring forth is a mystery, it may be a Republic or Provisional government. With the United States, we know by the legend at the top that it is a Republic, and so with very many others we may know what its politics are.

Fifthly: By the relation it bears to the Languages. Here we have the name of the country and value in every language, though many employ the Roman letters and Arabic numerals save a few who employ in the lettering, their native letters and the Arabic numerals, such as Montenegro, Bulgaria, Serbia and Russia which is the Slav. Some employ both, as China, Shanghai, Japan, Labuan, Egypt, Roumelia, Oriental and some of the Native Indian States and Turkey. (International series 1876-86), while others employ the native characters only, as Turkey 1863-82, Persia, 1875-78, Afghanistan, some Native Indian States, Siam 1883 and Japan 1871-72. By the various inscriptions we learn the name of the several countries in the native tongue and also the money and its equivalent in our own. Thus we know that £1 of Great Britain is equal to \$4.84, that the Piastre of Turkey and Egypt is equal to 5c., that 1 krun of Persia is equal to 20c., that the soldo of Austria is 1-2c., that the 100 reis of Portugal, colonies and Brazil is 54c., that the lira of Italy is 18c., that the sol of Peru, peso of Mexico is, the former 85c. and the latter 38c., that the candaren of Shanghai is 1c. and the yen of Japan is 98c. On the 1879 issue of Bulgaria, we have the word Centime spelt "CAHTNM," while on the 1881 issue the word Stotinki is spelt "CTOTNIHK" and on the 1883 "CTOTNI." On the Portuguese and Spanish stamps the word "Correos," meaning postage. On the Shanghai 1865 it is on the left side at the top: "3 ca." as it is on all the other issues.

Sixthly: By the relation it bears to the Fine Arts. Here Philately proves that it is a science by a knowledge it gives to the collector of the various conditions of the Fine Arts in the many stamp-issuing countries of the world. It proves that many have progressed while others have retrograded in these branches of Philatelic designing, engraving, lithographing and printing. Take the stamps of the native Indian States and Afghanistan, (i. e. those of native design and workmanship), and where do these countries stand in the scale of Fine Arts? Nowhere! These countries that in the middle ages could boast of their superiority in designing, engraving, sculpture and painting, whose workers and artisans in stone, wood and metal, made the material take graceful form of life and beauty. Where the stones were poems of beauty and the wood the forms of wonderful fret-work; where marble was carved in festoons of delicate lace work or precious stones so finely cut and inlaid into the marble, as to deceive the practiced eye, and seem a natural growth in the stone, of vines and flowers, or that of delicate embroidery on white satin. What do the stamps of these countries prove to us but that this, the

ancient cradle of Art has fallen and degenerated? Do we find any of these beautiful forms and devices on the stamps of Afghanistan, Alwur, Bhopal, Bhoire, Faridkot, Jhind, Jummoo, Jommoo, Cashmere, Nowanuggar, Pountch, Rajpepla, Scinde, Simoor or Soruth, though Nepal and Deccan are slight exceptions? Do we find any of those beautiful Arabesques on these stamps? These stamps are hideous, and are in the likeness of nothing in the heavens above, the earth below, or the waters under the earth, and especially those of Cashmere. They are a disgrace to the designer, engraver, printer and to Cashmere. They verify the old saying "that distance lends enchantment to the view," for as an object of Art the further they are off the better, but Philately, we must have them to complete our collections. Of these I have seen many that were counterfeits, and the counterfeiters had made them so much better than the originals, that the counterfeiters were easily detected.

(To be continued.)

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VOL. I.

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H., MARCH, 1887.

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CENTS.

Four pattern cents were issued in 1792, but the first issue of big coppers, as we call them, was in 1793. There are three varieties of this date, viz: Wreath, Chain and Liberty Cap. The wreath cent, though rare, is the most common and bears on the obverse a bust with disheveled hair beneath which is a sprig of three fig or olive leaves; there is also a rare variety having leaves of the Shamrock, and another variety has clover leaves under the bust. Above, "Liberty," below, the date. Reverse, "One Cent" in the centre surrounded by two half wreaths tied at the bottom with a ribbon. The fraction 1-100 at the bottom. Legend, "United States of America." There is a beaded circle around the edge of both obverse and reverse and one variety has on the edge, "One Hundred for a Dollar," while the others have the vine and bars.

The Chain cents have on the obverse a bust with flowing hair, looking to the



observers right: "Liberty" above and "1793" below. Reverse, "One Cent" and the fraction "1-100" in the centre, surrounded by an endless chain composed of



fifteen links, representing the number of States in the Union at that time. The legend is "United States of America," but there is a very rare variety with the last two letters left off, thus: "United States of Ameri." On the edges are vine and bars.

The Liberty Cap appeared toward the latter part of the year. Obverse, bust with flowing hair and a Liberty Cap on a



pole, extending across and behind it. "Liberty" above, date below. Reverse, "One Cent" in the centre surrounded by two half wreaths tied by a ribbon at the bottom. Below, the fraction "1-100." Legend, "United States of America." These are larger in diameter than either the Wreath or Chain cent, the letters are



a trifle larger, the beaded circles are more prominent than those on the other varieties and the edges are lettered, "One Hundred for a Dollar."

The 1794 cent resembles the Liberty Cap variety of 1793, but it is slightly thicker, is smaller in diameter and instead of the beaded circles it has a serrated milling on both obverse and reverse. There are over fifty varieties of this date. Dr. Maris in his Monograph of U. S. Cents mentions 43 varieties, but quite a number of varieties have been discovered since the publication of his book. Following are the names and numbers as given by him:

1. 1793 Head.
2. Double Chin.
3. Sans Milling.
4. Tilted 4.
5. Young Head.
6. The Coquette.
- 7, 8, 9. Crooked 7 (varieties.)
10. Pyramidal Head.
11. Many Haired.
12. Scarred Head.
13. Staudless 4.

14. Abrupt Hair.
- 15, 16. Separated Date (varieties.)
17. The Ornate.
- 18, 19. Venus Marina (varieties.)
20. Fallen 4.
- 21, 22. Short Bust (varieties.)
- 23, 24. Patagonian (varieties.)
25. The Ornate (variety of 17.)
- 26, 27. Amiable Face (varieties.)
28. Large Planchet.
- 29, 30. Marred Field (varieties.)
31. Distant 1.
- 32, 33. Shielded Hair (varieties.)
- 34, 35, 36, 37. The Pilae (varieties.)
38. Roman Pilae.
39. Head of 1795.
40. Many Haired (variety of 11.)
41. Egeria.
42. Trephined Head.
43. Crowned Date.

In one variety the dividing line in the fraction is omitted and in another a circle composed of 89 minute stars is arranged around the periphery, some of which are partially obliterated by the milling. Both of these varieties are very rare.

In 1795 the weight of the cent was reduced and the planchet was made proportionately thinner the lettering on the edge being omitted. Both varieties were coined this year. There is also a rare variety of this date that is as much different in design from the other varieties as black is from white. The hair which is much finer is brushed out nearly straight with the exception of the lowest lock which is similar to the letter S laid on its side. The profile is in very nearly a straight line from the hair to the chin, which is pointed, and the lips are pouting. Some people of vivid imagination think it resembles the portrait of Thomas Jefferson, consequently it is called the "Jefferson Head Cent." On the reverse, the ribbon bow has three turns instead of two as the others have, the leaves are somewhat longer, the berries are smaller but more numerous and the stems are finer than on any other variety. There are but very few specimens of this rare variety known, and one in good condition would bring from \$150 to \$200 if offered at auction. There is also a variety of the thick planchet which has a hyphen in the word "Liberty" thus: "Liberty-."

The Liberty Cap appears for the last time in 1796, and was followed by the "Fillet Head," both varieties being coined this year. In one variety of the new design "Liberty" is spelled "Liberty" One variety of the 1797 issue has stems to the wreath on the reverse, while the other is



without them. Of the 1798 cent there is a large date, a small date and the 1798 over 1797.

The cent of 1799 is the rarest of the series. There are two varieties, one having a perfect date, the other being struck from an altered die of 1798, showing a connecting line between the upper part and knob of the last 9. Counterfeits and altered dates are more plentiful than genuine specimens. On the reverse of the variety with perfect date, there is a small dot between the "E" of one and "T" of cent. If this is to be seen, it is pretty good evidence that the coin is genuine, as it is never seen on an altered date, but unless it is to be seen we should be very suspicious of the coin, unless it was badly worn all over, in which case it might be worn off. There are both perfect dates of 1800, and that date over 1799. On the reverse of one variety of the cent of 1801, the fraction of value appears "1-000," and on another variety with this error corrected, the 1 appears over the first cipher. On another variety the word "United" is commenced with an "H" instead of a "U" and another variety has no stems to the wreath. There were also the stemless wreath and "1-000" varieties of the 1802 cent. Of the issue of 1803 there is a variety with large "3" also one with the "1-000" corrected as in 1801.

Next to 1799 the cent of 1804 is the rarest of the series. There are two varieties of this date, one being perfect in every way and the "broken die," so called. On the obverse of the latter variety a break extends from the milling, including the tops of the letters "Rty" in "Liberty" and a similar break on the reverse which includes the tops of "Meri" in "America." There are altered dates, also a bogus coin struck from a badly cracked obverse die of 1804 and a reverse die of 1820; there is no need of any being deceived by

this, but once in a while one will turn up so nicely doctored that it will deceive any one but an expert. There are no marked changes in the issues of 1805, 1806 or 1807, with the exception that the latter date is found over 1806.

(To be continued.)

Metallic Currency.

BY WILLIAM ADE.

In all countries, gold, silver and copper have always constituted the main elements of coinage and the most familiar forms of currency.

The ratio of value between the first two has probably varied less during the last 2500 years than that between any other known substances. Copper has fluctuated more, but its function has been subsidiary and limited to small transactions.

In the hierarchy of the metals used as coins, gold may represent the king, silver the lord and copper the slave. The latter is now practically emancipated, bronze and nickel taking its place. Indium, osmium and palladium have been proposed as substitutes for gold and aluminum and manganese for silver, but without any practical result thus far. Platinum which is mostly found in the Ural mountains, has been coined to some extent by the Russian Government; but although a beautiful and valuable metal possessing many of the qualities to render it acceptable as coin, its employment as money has been found to be impracticable.

Great numbers of alloys have been employed in coinage and indeed it may be said that almost the entire system of metallic currency throughout the world is composed of alloys.

The Tuscan sequin, the purest coin known in history, contained 999 parts of gold in 1000. The six-ducats piece of Naples was next in purity having only an alloy of 4, while old Byzantine coins called bezants, contained an alloy of 14 parts in 1000.

Pure gold and silver, however are soft metals and interpermed by others are subject to serious loss by abrasion. They are therefore, rendered more useful by the admixture of a small portion of copper, which in the English system in the case of gold, may be expressed decimally by 916.66 and of silver 925 parts in 1000. Nickel is usually alloyed with three parts of copper and it is noteworthy that its adoption as a subsidiary coinage in Germany, coincident with the demonetization of silver, caused it to advance rapidly in price, while the latter was as rapidly declining.

The old Roman aes was made of the mixed metal called aes, a compound of copper and tin and in quality and value not unlike bronze. Brass was also extensively used from the time of Hiram of Tyre to that of the Emperor Otto.

The old Kings of Northumbria coined a small money called stycas, out of a natural alloy, composed of copper, zinc, gold, silver, lead and tin, which the metallurgists of that rude northern coast had not chemical skill to separate.

Lycragus established an iron coinage for Lacedaemon, not only making the coins of such weight and bulk as to forbid their export but depriving them of their metallic value, by causing them while heated to be plunged into vinegar, thereby destroying their malleability. While these coins were the largest of which historic mention is made, the Portuguese real, so small to be actually coined, is doubtless the smallest unit of value in the money systems of the world. It is only about the nineteenth part of an English penny and is considerably smaller than the Chinese cash, which, of actual coins, is perhaps of the lowest value known.

In Sweden, during the last century, huge squares of copper weighing between three and four pounds, with a stamp in each corner and one in the centre, were issued as coins, and curious specimens of them may still be seen in numismatic collections. These, with the Maundy money, a small portion of which is still annually struck at the British Mint and distributed by her Majesty in alms, probably represent the extremest variation of dimensions known among modern systems of coinage, the smallest piece of the Maundy money being a silver penny.

The Chinese probably illustrate in the most extreme manner the length to which loose views concerning currency can be carried. Coined money was known among them as early as the eleventh century before Christ, but their inability to comprehend the principles upon which a currency should be based has led them into all sorts of extravagancies, which have been attended by disorder, famine and bloodshed. Coins came at last to be made so thin that one thousand of them piled together were only three inches high; then gold and silver were abandoned and copper, tin, shells, stones and paper were given a fixed value and used until, by abuse, all the advantages to be derived from the use of money were lost, and

there was nothing left for the people to do but to go back to barter, and this they did more than once. They cannot be said now to have a coinage; 2,900 years ago they made round coins with a square hole in the middle and they have made no advance beyond that since. The well known cash is a cast brass coin of that description and although it is valued at about one mill and a half of United States money and has to be strung in lots of one thousand and to be computed with any ease, it is the sole measure of value and legal tender of the country.

The coined money of Great Britain is the most elegantly executed and among the purest in the world. The greater part of the Continental coinage is poorly executed and basely alloyed. In Holland and most of the German States, the coins legally current as silver money are apparently one third brass and resemble the counterfeit shillings and sixpences of a former period in England. In France and Belgium the new gold and silver coins are handsome and so likewise are the large gold and silver pieces of Prussia. The coins and medals executed by direction of Napoleon in France are in a high style of art.

Coins: Technical Terms and Definition.

BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

NUMISMATICS is the Science of Coins and Medals.

A COIN is a piece of metal bearing definite devices, struck for general circulation and represents a certain value.

A MEDAL is a piece of metal struck in commemoration of some person or event, but is not designed for general circulation and is not Legal Tender. From a numismatic standpoint, the value of a coin or medal depends largely upon its condition. There are eleven classes, viz: Proof, Uncirculated, Circulated, Very Fine, Fine, Very Good, Good, Very Fair, Fair, Poor and Very Poor.

PROOFS are those coins struck for collectors and not designed for general circulation. They have a polished mirror-like surface and bring the highest prices when offered for sale.

UNCIRCULATED Coins are strictly unused, being in the same condition as when first issued from the mint, showing no sign of the least rubbing or wear.

CIRCULATED Coins are those which have been in circulation barely long enough to wear off the mint lustre without rubbing the metal.

VERY FINE Coins show only the very slightest traces of circulation.

FINE Coins are just barely touched by circulation.

VERY GOOD Coins are but very little worn.

GOOD Coins are well defined but are worn on hair, cheek, stars or other high parts of the device.

VERY FAIR Coins have the inscription and device perfectly clear.

FAIR Coins have the inscription and device legible.

POOR Coins are worn almost beyond recognition.

VERY POOR Coins have their inscriptions and devices nearly obliterated.

A TOKEN is a piece of metal stamped by private parties, but is not lawful money.

THE PLANCHET is the piece of blank metal on which the device is struck.

THE OBTUSE is the side of a coin or medal bearing the head or principle figure.

THE REVERSE is the opposite side.

THE LEGEND is any inscription with the exception of the name of the Person represented.

THE INSCRIPTION includes all legends, titles, etc.

THE FIELD is the blank surface between the device and inscription.

THE MINT MARK is a private mark to denote its place of coinage.

LIBERTY CAP: A liberty cap on a pole. (See cent of 1794.)

FILLET HEAD: Hair tied with a ribbon at the back of the head. (The cents of 1797 to 1807.)

FLOWING HAIR: Hair untied and flowing down the back. (See variety of the cent of 1793.)

TURBAN HEAD: A turban on the head, inscribed "Liberty." (See cents of 1808-14.)

LETTERED EDGE: Inscription on the edge. (See cent of 1794.)

MILLED OR REEDED EDGE: Ribbed or serrated, like coins of the present date.

TYPES are different designs of the same date. (The nickel of 1883, half dollar of 1836, dollar of 1795, etc.)

VARIETIES are slight variations of the same design and are many times so slight that none but an expert could detect them. (See cents of 1794.)

SIZE, in this country is reckoned in sixteenths of an inch.

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OUR AGENTS.

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Geo. H. Richmond, 5 Beekman St. New York.
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OFFICIAL ORGAN

— OF THE —

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

The April number of this paper will go to press about the 25th day of March. 2,800 copies will be published and we will insert TRIAL ADVERTISEMENTS for 75 cents per inch, or three inches for \$2. Terms, cash with the copy.

The Bi-Monthly Directory will hereafter appear every month.

"THE CURIOSITY WORLD is just immense."—Old Curiosity Shop.

The Curio is announced to appear from Emporia, Kansas, this month.

The Black Hawk Philatelic Society was recently organized at Rock Island, Ill.

The Old Curiosity Shop has reduced its subscription price to 10 cents per year.

Owing to our crowded columns we are obliged to omit the "Exchange List" this month.

Subscriptions may commence with any issue after number three. We cannot supply Nos. 1, 2 or 3.

The CURIOSITY WORLD gives more reading matter than any other 25 cent Curiosity paper published.

The Autograph is the name of a new paper devoted to Autograph collecting, published by S. H. Calhoun, Jr., Nebraska City, Nebr.

To those Secretaries of Philatelic Societies who will send us brief reports of their meetings, promptly, we will place on our complimentary list.

Small favors are thankfully received: larger ones in proportion. If you haven't a quarter you can spare for a year's subscription, send us fifteen cents for six months.

J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H., wants reliable agents to sell stamps from approval sheets. Never mind about asking for an agency, however, unless you can give A. No. 1 references.

We are willing to give every Curiosity Collector a sample copy of this paper, and only one. We keep a record of every sample copy sent out, and if you want to see us again, you must subscribe.

For only 25 cents we will send post free to any address, one copy each of the "Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and Sell." Every collector should own a set of these books, and now is the time to buy them.

Number three of the Texas Stamp is a grand improvement over former issues. Mr. Martin has done well to omit the advertisement of L. H. Patterson, of Salem, Mass., one of the worst rascals the sun ever shone upon, and will do better when he collects what Patterson owes him.

Mr. S. B. Bradt, Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, President of the Chicago Philatelic Society and Editor of the Western Philatelist, has opened an office at 225 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., and will hereafter devote his entire time to the Stamp business. Mr. Bradt understands the Stamp business thoroughly, is perfectly reliable and has our best wishes for his success.

L. W. Durbin's 16th edition Stamp Catalogue is now ready for delivery. It is the "best yet" of this popular catalogue and contains a list of everything issued up to date, the location of all countries, their form of government, value of currency, a list of words and phrases by which a stamp can be located without difficulty besides numerous illustrations of the arms, portraits and devices found upon stamps. Every collector who has not already done so should purchase a copy. Price, 25 cents. Address, L. W. Durbin, 5th and Library Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

BARBADOS.—The 1-2 penny card has come over printed on buff.

CANADA.—Mr. Hart sends us a specimen of a new one cent card. The stamp is similar to the one it supercedes, but the white lines around the oval and the numerals are much finer.

FINLAND.—The stamp on the Helsingfors card has been changed to the same as the adhesives now in use, but printed in green.

GIBRALTAR.—The 1-2 penny card has come to hand printed in green on buff.

GRENADA.—Another variety of the provisional penny stamp has been seen, made by surcharging the 1 shilling, yellow, revenue stamp. We have received specimens of the 1-2 d, brown, and 2d, blue newspaper wrappers.

HOLLAND.—The 5 cent post card has appeared with postal union inscriptions.

HONGKONG.—A Provisional 1 cent card has been made by surcharging the 3 cent card "One Cent" in black.

NEW REPUBLIC.—In addition to the stamps mentioned in our last number we have the 2 pence, lilac on grey.

NORWAY.—The 5 ore card green on white is now a trifle larger and the thin line inside the frame instead of being wavy is composed of a series of loops.

SAMOA.—Of the new issue the following are also reported: 1-2 penny brown-violet and 1 penny, green.

TRINIDAD.—We have the 2 pence blue card in double form.

UNITED STATES.—A correspondent writes as follows: "I have seen the new die envelope stamp on size 4 1-2 white paper. It is an attractive stamp, the head being about the size of that of the Nesbit dies."

The Scientist, published by E. M. Haight of Riverside, Cal., has discontinued publication.

The Stamp World has been sold to the Western Philatelist Publishing Company, of Chicago.

The January issue of the Philatelic Herald has at last appeared and is a great improvement over former issues.

John R. Findley of Halifax, N. S., is about to publish the Useful Instructor, to be devoted to collecting of all branches.

We have purchased a quantity of Latin's "Oologists' Hand Books" and can supply them at 15 cents each, post free. Address this office.

Fifteen cents pays for this paper six months and we guarantee to give more reading in six months than the average Philatelic paper gives in one year.

"Howard K. Sanderson's articles on 'Autograph Collecting,' in the CURIOSITY WORLD clearly demonstrate that he knows what he is talking about."—The Autograph.

We have published the article on Butterfly Collecting, by R. A. Meers, which appeared in the Oct., Nov., Dec., and January issues of this paper, in book form. It contains 26 illustrations and much useful information for anyone who collects Butterflies. Price, 10 cents. Address this office.

We have just issued the "Stamp Collectors of the World," a 20 page book with heavy covers, each page being 7 inches long and 2 columns wide. It is printed on the same kind of paper as the WORLD and contains the addresses of over 1,000 bona fide Stamp Collectors in all parts of the world. Every collector should own a copy. Price, post free, 10 cents.

The Gem Stamp Album.

The majority of stamp collectors, especially beginners, prefer to invest what money they can in stamps, rather than in an album. We have just issued a new album, called the "Gem," which for neatness and cheapness is not beat in this country. It is printed on 50 lb., tinted, machine finished paper, and contains space for 600 stamps. Size, 6x8 inches. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

The Stamp Dealers of the World.

We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the addresses of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as it is possible to make it, and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 10 cents, or three for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.

PART III.

[This article begun in our January number. Subscriptions may commence with that issue if so desired.—Ed.]

New Jersey was an important colony in the Revolution and her members took a prominent part in the fight for liberty. She furnished five delegates to Congress, all of whom signed the Declaration.

Mr. Richard Stockton was a royal judge and high in the King's favor, but when the momentous question of independence arose, he at once joined the patriots although holding his doubts at first in regard to the expediency of the measure, he soon became in favor of it, through the eloquence of John Adams, its great champion on the floor. He was taken prisoner in the fall of 1776, suffering many indignities. In 1781, his health being shattered and his property confiscated, he sank away and died. The autograph of Mr. Stockton is one of the names of the rare half dozen. A fair specimen recently sold for \$50, but one is seldom heard of and rarely in the market. He signed his name abbreviated, ending like Mr. Gerry, in a fantastic design of his own. His son, Richard, is often mistaken for the father.

Dr. John Witherspoon, it has been facetiously remarked, was the only member who did not sign the Declaration with a quill. He signed it *Witherspoon*. But however the manner may have been, we find his name plainly inscribed on the paper. He was a Scotchman, came to this country and by his superior talents was soon appointed to the presidency of the College of New Jersey. Early identifying himself with the Sons of Liberty, he was chosen to represent the people many times in the Continental Congress. He was a staunch supporter of the Declaration, and lived in peace after its adoption until 1794, dying at the age of 73. An autograph letter of Mr. Witherspoon is worth about \$6, is not very hard to obtain and yet a good Revolutionary letter is a rarity. His signature is always underscored with a long dash of ink.

Francis Hopkinson was a bosom friend of Benjamin Franklin, and the two men are often mentioned together. He was a royal office holder until 1776, when he was chosen to the Continental Congress. He voted for and signed the Declaration. In 1799 he became Judge of the Court of Admiralty for Pennsylvania and held the office ten years. President Washington afterward appointed him Judge of the United States for the same state. Mr. Hopkinson was a very small man in stature as well as one of the youngest of the signers. His autograph is nearly always found upon the old Admiralty papers and seldom at the close of a good letter. Upon a document his signature is worth about a dollar, a letter from five to ten dollars. He wrote a large scrawling hand, abbreviating like many of his fellows, his first name.

John Hart was a farmer. The date of his birth and little of his life is known. In 1774 he appeared and took his seat in Congress, which he held until the Declaration was signed, earning the name of "Honest John Hart," by his sturdiness and zeal. When during the latter part of 1776, New Jersey became the seat of war, Mr. Hart's property fell into the hands of the British and he was obliged to flee for his life. After the evacuation by the army he tried to repair his scattered fortunes but his health had received such a shock that he died in 1780. The autograph of Mr. Hart—small, plain and very simple—is seldom found except upon a colonial bill of which he must have signed many. Collectors speak in whispers of a letter. Now and then a poor little document signed is offered for \$25, but in most collections Mr. Hart's name is painfully prominent by its absence.

Abraham Clark began life as a farmer, afterwards adopting the legal profession. He was early an ardent patriot, being appointed a member of the Committee of Safety and serving in the great Congress of '76. He was strongly in favor of the Declaration and was at no loss as to how he should vote. His name was affixed in a bold hand; "Abra. Clark." He was a member of the convention which framed the Constitution in 1787, afterward holding office under the New Government. He died in 1794 and is buried in the little churchyard at Rahway. A good letter of Mr. Clark is worth \$20. They are usually of uncommon interest and not of such great scarcity that a collector need be discouraged.

Delaware claimed three of the Signers. Mr. Thomas McKean, an Irishman was the most important. He took his seat in the Continental Congress in Sept., 1774 and continued a member until 1783. He was a firm supporter of the measure for Independence and signed the paper. He subscribed his name to the original docu-

ment deposited in the office of the secretary of State, but it was omitted in the copy published in the journals of Congress. The omission it is now impossible to explain. He became in after years Governor of Pennsylvania and held many places of trust. At the age of 83 he died and lies buried in the burial ground of the First Presbyterian Church, in Market Street, Philadelphia. His autograph is not hard to obtain, a good clean letter perhaps being worth \$7. He wrote a very good hand, as compared with some of his colleagues.

George Read was also an Irishman but early espoused the cause of liberty. He was elected to Congress in 1774, but was opposed to the Declaration and voted against it, the only instance among the Signers. He did this from a sense of duty, because he deemed the act inexpedient and not because he was unloyal. But when the measure received the sanction of the great council he cordially affixed his name with the others. Mr. Read's portrait represents him as being a man of fine countenance and great intelligence. His autograph is exceedingly rare in any shape. A document signed is more often met with than anything else, but a letter is among the improbabilities, and worth thirty or forty dollars. All in all Mr. Read's name may be set down as one of the rarest.

Ceser Rodney was a celebrated man in his day, and was early elected to a place in the National council. On the question of Independence his colleagues, Messrs McKean and Read were divided, and Mr. Rodney being away it was evident that the vote of Delaware could not be obtained, but knowing his views on the question, Mr. McKean dispatched a messenger in great haste for Mr. Rodney, that he might be present at the vote upon the great question. He was found and with extreme difficulty reached Philadelphia just in time to give his vote, thus giving equanimity to the measure. He died from a cancer in 1783. An autograph letter of Mr. Rodney is worth ten dollars if it is in good condition and a document two or three dollars. He wrote a legible hand and an interesting letter. It is a strange thing that Mr. Rodney and Mr. McKean should be so much more common than Mr. Read. But it will not take a collector long to realize this.

Pennsylvania had the largest number of delegates to Congress—nine. Mr. Robert Morris, who heads the list, was one of the most learned and distinguished men in the colonies. Possessed of much wealth, he loaned it to his country in her time of need, but failed to recover it and became bankrupt in his later years. He was prominent in all the great acts of the Revolution and to his efforts, if to any one man, the liberty of the colonies was obtained. He died in 1806 at the age of 73. The autograph of Mr. Morris is the easiest to obtain of all the Signers. His correspondence was voluminous and his papers are met with at all points. A fine autograph letter will only bring \$1.50, the only scarcity being a letter of Revolutionary date and subject.

Dr. Benjamin Rush was perhaps the most distinguished physician in the country at the time of the Revolution. In 1793 when yellow fever scourged Philadelphia for one hundred days, causing over four thousand deaths, Dr. Rush became marvelously successful and rendered his name famous by his marvelous treatment. He was soon after presented a medal by the King of Prussia and a gold medal from the Queen of Etruria, while the Emperor of Russia sent him a diamond ring as a token of his appreciation of him as a medical man. Dr. Rush was an ardent patriot and his name was signed in a plain, neat hand to the great document. His autograph is not rare, a good letter being worth four dollars.

(To be continued.)

Rare Coins.

Probably nearly every one in the United States knows that there are many coins in circulation that are worth much more than their face value, but they wouldn't know them if they should meet them in the middle of the street. We have issued a Premium Coin List, containing 94 illustrations, and giving our buying prices for every U. S. coin worth over face value. Every one who handles money should possess a copy. Price, 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents, post free. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Hints on Insect Collecting.

There is no branch of Natural History work that offers more attractions to the student than insect collecting. This book contains much valuable information as to the outfit necessary for collecting, the manner of preparing and mounting insects, the preparation of a cabinet, etc., and every collector should possess a copy. The book is recommended by the Agassiz Association and is mentioned in their hand book. Price, 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

AUTOGRAPHS FOR SALE.

James Monroe, A. L. S., 3pp, 4to, 1827, a magnificent letter on public affairs.
James Monroe, A. L. S., 2pp, 4to, 1830, an equally fine letter.
James Monroe, A. L. S., 2pp, 4to, 1816, a clean, desirable specimen.
James Monroe, D. S., as President.
Millard Fillmore, A. L. S., 1p, 4to, 1856, an interesting private letter.
Andrew Jackson, Muster Roll signed as Major General: 1812.
John Tyler, Signature.
Andrew Johnson, Signature: the rarest President.
Andrew Johnson, Postmaster's commission signed as President; very rare.
U. S. Grant; Portion of a D. S.

Signers of the Declaration.

John Hancock, D. S., 1p, 8vo, 1776.
Charles Carroll of Carrollton, D. S., 1p, 1806.
Geo. Clymer A. L. S., 1p, 4to.
Sam'l Adams, D. S., 1p, 1794.
Philip Livingston, A. D. S., 1p 4to, 1745. Excessive-ly rare.
Oliver Wolcott, A. D. S., 1p 4to, 1753.
Roger Sherman, A. D. S., 1p, 4to, 1754.
Wm. Paca—Signature.
Matthew Thornton, D. S., 1p, folio.
Wm. Whipple, D. S., 1p, 4to, 1781.
John Morton, Continental Bill, signed.

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Gen Wm. Heath, A. D. S., 1p, 4to, 1806.
Gen Edward Hard, A. D. S., 2p, folio.
Gen Jed. Huntington, A. L. S., 1p, 4to.
Gen Lafayette, L. S., 2pp, 4to, 1822.
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Wm. Cullen Bryant, A. L. S., 1p, 8vo.
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CHARLES THE SECOND, King of England, D. S., 1-2p, folio.
Victoria, Signature.

This is only a partial list of what I have on hand. A list of everything will be cheerfully furnished to any collector who cares to write for it. I have several wants in my own collection and would much rather exchange than sell for anything I need. Collectors will do well to send me a list of their wants.

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Philately! A Science.

BY A. PALETTE.

(Concluded.)

Here Philately shows a degeneration in the Fine Arts, and why? For the reason that now, the prevailing religion is the Mohametan, which, like the Mosaic Law, forbids the reproduction of any living thing; be it beast, bird, fish or human being, in, or on any substance, be it stone, metal, wood or paper. And yet it is to this law that Art is indebted for the beautiful forms of the arabesques of Arabia, Spain, Turkey, Hindostan, Persia and Morocco. For, to keep within bounds of these laws, the designers of the middle ages were obliged to twist and turn the objects at their command, into every conceivable form and position; thus domes were formed of the chalices of flowers, many times repeated, geometrical figures were employed to decorate the floors, walls and ceilings of palace, temple, tomb and court. Lines that have no apparent beginning or end, were the beginning of the Arabesque, and thus the Saracenic. Arabesque, Moresque, Hindoo and Persian styles of Art were created. Look at the stamps of Egypt of 1865 and on those of Turkey of 1867-68-69-71, etc., or Persia of 1881 and on them you will find the pure arabesques. Greece, in the issue of April 1st, 1886, has at last employed its representative Art, as it should have done long ago, the appearance of these new-comers from the Hellenic land, is much finer than those we have had here-to-fore.

Now let us look at home: compare the first general issue of 1847 with that of any subsequent issues: 1869-70 or the Departments of '73, or those gems of the engraver's printer's and designer's art, the Newspaper and Periodicals of 1875-85, and what do they show us? That we are steadily advancing in Philatelic Art, if in no other and that each is an improvement on the last issue. Compare the United States Revenues with those of Foreign make, or our Telegraphs (The Postal Telegraph Company, Feb. 12, 1885 or Baltimore and Ohio of 1885-86), with those of any Foreign make, and the superiority of our stamps stand clearly to the view of the most casual observer. The designers, engravers and printers of our Bank Note Companies are thorough artists in every sense of the word. Look again at the Postal Telegraph Company's Stamps (now obsolete). These are gems of art by themselves. Compare the stamps of Guatemala, (issue of July 1st, 1885), or Nicaragua of any issue, Costa Rica, (Jan. 1st, 1883) or Salvador 1879, or Peru, Bolivia, Argentine Republic, (late issues), or Paraguay, (the work of our Bank Note Companies), with those of Great Britain and her colonies, (of the De la Rue make), and our superiority in Philatelic designing, engraving and printing will be seen.

This knowledge that Philately gives us of the state of the *Fine Arts* in various stamp issuing countries prove that it is a *Science*. By the dictionary, I find that the definition of the word science is knowledge; certainly grounded on demonstration. Art attained by precepts or built on principles; any Art is a species of knowledge. And is not Philately a species of knowledge? When it shows clearly by demonstration and by comparison the History, Language, Geography, Chronology, Politics and the Fine Arts of the many countries that issue stamps. And as it is *knowledge* it must be a *science*. Chemistry, long fought for an existence, and in the middle ages it was put down as a Black Art; those practicing it were supposed to be in close communion with his satanic majesty or Ebilis.

In closing this somewhat dry article, would it not be of marked importance to Philately as well as Art, were those countries who possess a representative Art, to employ it on their stamps, per instance: Mexico, the Aztec; Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Chili and U. S. of Columbia, the Toltec and Inca; Central American Republics, the Maya,* etc. All these might be effected with a pleasing and beautiful effect, far different from the miserable stamps Mexico has given to Philately in 1884-85-86, or the separate states of U. S. of Columbia, per Antioquia, Bolivia, etc.

What Philately will be in the next ten centuries is a mystery that none can fathom. Yet, if we make the same strides in advancement as we have in the last forty-six years, we shall stand on the top-most round of the ladder of fame.

*See Owen Jones' *Grammar of Ornament*.

INDIAN RELICS.

BY ERWIN G. WARD.

By the term Indian relics I mean the stone and copper implements of war, the chase and agriculture. These consist of arrow and spear heads, axes, pipes, celts, gouges and hoes used by the Indians in some remote time, which the husbandman's plow brings to light as it turns over

the soil on some favorite hunting ground, or the battle fields of these first inhabitants of America.

The collecting and arranging of these different implements makes an interesting and instructive study. The many tramps across the fields and along the river-banks on some lovely day, has been a source of pleasure in more sense than one. We have had a chance to breathe the fresh air and admire the many beauties of nature,—the birds, the flowers and the many picturesque views and artistic "bits," has lifted our minds from the busy and sordid cares of life to a higher plane, where we can look from "Nature to Nature's God."

When we arrive at the spot selected for our search, we commence at one end of the field and make a thorough and systematic search, scanning eagerly every peculiarly-shaped stone, hoping all the time that we shall soon be rewarded by a "rich find." As we search, our mind goes back and we ask ourselves the question: "Who were these people that made these different implements and why did they make them? In our imagination we can see them roaming over these same fields, armed with the bow and arrow, spear, and war club. These very relics we are looking for, pointed their arrow shafts and spear handles or ornamented their persons. We can see the squaws sitting around a pile of stones making these implements, soon to be used by the braves, either in war, the chase or fishing. The vision vanishes as we stoop and pick up a fine arrow point of white quartz or a spear point of some darker stone, and we feel well paid for our tramp. As we examine our collections, we find that these relics differ in size, shape and workmanship. We account for this in this way: that each tribe had a peculiar style of manufacture which showed the characteristics of that tribe; also that some were made for war and fishing, and others, called "hunters," for stunning the game. I have some long and slim points from Stowe, Mass., found on a plain, near a pond. Some claim that they were used in war, others that they were used both for war and fishing. Some points are triangular in shape, others have edges beveled in such a way as would cause the arrow to revolve in a spiral manner. I have never heard of but two white men that could make arrow points: one was connected with the Smithsonian Institution at Washington and the other a Mr. Crafts of Whately, Mass. I have several in my collection, made by him which cannot be told from the genuine. The P. V. M. A. Museum at Deerfield has a few of his manufacture in its Conn. Valley Collection. Mr. Crafts refused to divulge his secret to any one, so his discovery died with him a few years ago. It is a wonder what the Indians did with their larger spear heads, as but few are to be found. Mr. John Hobson, of Endow, Mass., has a fine collection of Indian relics. He has a spear point ten inches long and perfect in shape, found in the Conn. Valley. In the collection of Mr. David Lincoln, of West Brookfield, is a triangular-shaped one as wide as a man's hand. Dr. Charles C. Abbott in his "Primitive Industry," quotes Schoolcraft, who calls them "antique javelins, Indian Shemagon, or spear. This antique implement was one of the most efficacious in close encounters before the introduction of iron weapons and he conjectures that the staff on which it was used was some five feet long." Possibly these very large ones were used by the chiefs. I have several in my collection from five to seven inches in length, from Illinois and Wisconsin. I have also two copper implements, an arrow and a spear point, both found in Waukegan Co., Wis. You will find a perfect picture of the point on page 419 of "Primitive Industry." The spear point was made to fit over a handle and was quite long and sharp. (My collection is where I cannot give exact measurements of all my specimens.) These copper implements were well made and thin like a case knife blade. Are these the work of the Mound Builders or of the Indians? It is claimed that the Mound Builders worked the Lake Superior copper mines. If these two relics were not made by them, then there were some fine workers in copper among the Wisconsin Indians. I have other relics, a description of which would, I think, interest the readers of THE CURIOSITY WORLD.

In closing I would like to give some advice to the young collectors. Label your specimens, giving places where they were found, when and by whom. If possible, get as many relics from your own town and state as time and circumstances will permit. Read local and general history, and study the lay of the land where the relics are found and try to determine whether it was a battle field, a camping spot of a tribe, or where a few had stopped for a short time. I have a set of four

or five large implements which were plowed up near a small stream, which proved to me that one or more Indians had made a temporary camp there. In exchanging, insist that all specimens shall be fully labeled, for it adds to their value and interest. Be careful with whom you exchange. My first and only experience was with a dealer in one of the Middle Atlantic States. (His name indicates his character), who, as far as I can learn, has never made an honorable exchange with whom he thought were young collectors. A party from West Virginia, with whom I have exchanged, wrote me that the boys in his locality had been made to suffer in like manner from the same source. Never deal with such parties the second time, and be sure to give them a good "airing" among your friends. By so doing, we can help each other, which in the end will help us to add to our collections.

Notes on Some Ky. Game Birds.

BY L. O. PINDAR.

WILD TURKEY.—This prince of game birds is rather common in the bottoms around Hickman. Many are brought to town in the winter and sell for from fifty to seventy-five cents each. It is a shy bird but can be easily called up by using a hollow cane or bone from a turkey's wing. The nest is on the ground beneath underbrush or in a canebrake. The eggs are ten to twenty or more in number, of a rich cream color, sprinkled with brown.

BOBWHITE.—Also known as Quail or Partridge. Sometimes called "Partridge." (A pronounced as in cat). In late summer and autumn they are often seen rolling in the dusty roads or sitting on a rail fence. These birds can also be easily called up, especially in the mating season. They are getting shyer though, and cannot be hunted successfully without a dog. Numbers are trapped every winter and sold in town. Last year, (1886), one firm had thirty or forty live ones in the store for sale, and they stood captivity very well. The best time to find eggs is when hay or wheat is cut, when the nest containing the white eggs, blunt and sharp at one end, is most easily found. I have two eggs from a set of 18 collected by Mr. W. Beckman of this place.

Besides these two principal birds, we have Canada Geese, common; Mallards, abundant; Black Ducks, rare; Green-winged Teal, Wood Duck, common; Scamp Duck, common; Canvas Back, Red Head, rare; and Ruffle Head. I also give a list of birds used for food, not included in the list of game birds. These are mostly used by negroes. Robin, almost universally eaten. Sold readily for 25c. per dozen. Cedar Waxwing, considered a delicacy by a great many people, both white and colored. Snowbird, rarely eaten. Red-shouldered Blackbird, very popular with negroes. Meadow Lark, often eaten. Purple Grackle, often eaten. Blue Jay, occasionally eaten. Night Hawk, said to be sometimes eaten. Red-headed Woodpecker, rarely eaten. Flicker, often eaten. And many others.

The Stamps of Nova Scotia.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

Nova Scotia was originally a part of Acadia. It is a colonial province of British America. Its greatest length from South west to North east is 280 miles; its greatest breadth is about 120 miles. Within the province is 15,627 square miles. Its South east coast is remarkable for the number of its harbors, there being no less than twelve ports capable of receiving large ships, and fourteen of sufficient depth for merchant vessels.

Nova Scotia is beautifully diversified with rivers and lakes. The most remarkable body of water is Mines bay, the East arm of the bay of Fundy. The tides here rush in and out with great impetuosity and form what is called the bore. At the equinoxes they have been known to rise sixty or seventy feet on the opposite coast, while the Spring tides rise only six to nine feet. The province is rich in geological resources and vast trunks of trees of unknown ages are found in the sandstone strata.

The country was originally discovered by Sebastian Cabot. In 1621 Sir William Alexander applied for and obtained from James I. a grant of the whole country, which he proposed to colonize on an extensive scale, and in 1623 the attempt was made but the proposed colonists, finding its various points where they wished to establish themselves thronged by foreign adventurers, did not think it prudent to attempt a settlement and therefore returned to England. During the reign of Charles I. the Nova Scotia baronets were created, and their patents ratified by Parliament and to have portions of land allotted to them. Their number was not to exceed 150. Cromwell sent out an armed force and took possession of the country, which remained with the English until 1667, when it was ceded to France by treaty. But the English from time to

time attacked the French colonists at various points and ravaged their settlements, continuing to harass and annoy them until 1713, when the country was finally ceded to England. For some years it was neglected but in 1749 efforts were made to colonize it by emigrants sent out at the expense of the British Government. Some 4,000 settlers and their families reached the colonies in this way and founded the town of Halifax. The French who were still numerous, excited suspicion during subsequent wars with France, and these Acadians were at last cruelly seized and carried off from their homes and landed destitute on the shores from Massachusetts to Georgia. Longfellow's famous poem, "Evangeline" is based upon an incident in the cruel treatment of the Acadians or neutral French.

A Constitution was granted to Nova Scotia in 1758, and by the treaty made in Paris, in February, 1763, France renounced all future claim upon any of her former possessions in North America. It is now part of the Dominion of Canada.

Postage stamps were introduced into Nova Scotia in 1857. They were of four



values: one penny, three pence, six pence and one shilling. The design of the one penny stamp consisted of a diademed full face of the Queen on a ground of engine turning in linear diamond, surmounted with section of stars containing flowers in lettered frame. "Nova Scotia Postage," with value in full. The other stamps were of similar design. The three pence was printed in blue, the six pence in green and the one shilling in violet.

In 1860 these stamps were replaced by a new issue, the cent series, consisting of three values, one cent, two cents and five cents, which were supplemented in 1861, by three other values: 8 1-2 cents, 10 cents and 12 1-2 cents black. The design is a profile of the Queen, crowned, to left, on lines in linear circle, labels above, bearing Nova Scotia below, with full values.



1 cent 1860, black.
2 cents " lilac.
5 cents " blue.

The design on the remaining values is a full face, crowned in oval.

8 1-2 cents 1861, green.
10 cents 1861, red.
12 1-2 cents 1861, black.

These specimens from Nova Scotia are among the most beautiful stamps known to collectors and rank next to the Russian stamps in beauty. They became obsolete in 1868, the Canadian stamps taking their place.

Music-Loving Animals.

BY H. R. TAYLOR.

Many interesting anecdotes have been related of music-loving animals and stories of wise mice coming forth from their holes to listen in ecstasy to the sound of a sweet-toned instrument, but never 'til a short time ago did I know that squirrels too had a soul for music. One day, while I sat watching a species of squirrel which abounds among the rocks, along the coast of Monterey Bay, California, I chanced to softly whistle a familiar air, and the effect on the rodents was almost instantaneous. Whereas they had scampered out of sight at my approach, they now crept forth from their holes, one by one, until I had almost a dozen around me, all listening attentively. One interested fellow had something he had been eating, between his paws, and ascended a fallen branch of a tree and stood with rigid and dignified attention while I continued in the role of musical director. At various occasions after this I tried this experiment and could always draw a lot of listening squirrels about me and the politeness of their undivided attention, considering their natural propensity for noisyness, was simply extraordinary.

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A Novel Cabinet.

BY W. S. BECKMAN.

Some time ago when writing for the *Mineralogist and Antiquarian, Tidings from Nature and Random Notes*, I alluded to a decidedly curious and unique illustrative cabinet of Mineralogical specimens that can be seen at West Medford, Mass. I did not at the time give a description in detail, considerable interest has been manifested concerning the same, and I have been repeatedly asked by collectors both far and near, to give a more complete idea concerning this "Novel Cabinet." Having considered it hardly worth while to use up so much valuable space as such a description, to be complete, would require. I have thus far failed to do so but now, the request comes in such an urgent manner that it is with pleasure I submit the following "Popular Catalogue" which is the only list that has been thus published.

Much is being done to popularize the study of the Beautiful in Nature. Especially so is this the case with Mineralogy; and the science, in its rapidly improving terseness, is fast becoming a decidedly popular requirement to anything like a liberal education.* Once forcibly impress a person with the wonderful beauty that "The Flowers of the Mineral Kingdom," may be made to exhibit, when skilfully interrogated; and they will gradually learn that they have remained impassive to a world of beauty, that until now, has seemed utterly devoid of beauty. If, in studying the abstruse laws of Nature, we are led to realize that "the laws of Nature are the thoughts of God." In studying the characters of the mineral kingdom we will still recognize that we are handling the actual realizations of the "Thoughts of God." I know of no more of an effectual method of forcing one to realize that there is certainly a supervision of an Omnipotent in Creation; than to have them enter into a close communion with some one of the many of these actual realizations expressed by these "Thoughts."

New England itself is a cabinet and contains thousands of beautiful "actual realizations" that are waiting for our appreciation; an appreciation however that is slowly but surely gathering in intensity. Being so prominently placed before us that the wonderfulness is impaired, by common association. Appreciation lies dormant, and only comes to the surface when special cases are placed before us. Before ending this digression from our subject in hand, allow me to quote Prof. Winchell, where, in speaking of the fossil footprints found in "The Old Red Sandstone" of Connecticut, he calls attention to a fossil footprint fifteen inches in length, forming a consecutive series of six, and being from four to five feet apart. Whether bird or saurian, it must have been a formidable beast to be seen striding along the beach. Such popularizations once swarmed upon the plains of the Connecticut Valley, now vocal with the hum of civilized life. It is a solemn and impressive thought, that the footprints of these dumb and senseless creatures have been preserved in all their perfections for thousands of ages, while so many of the works of man, which date but a century back have been obliterated from the records of time. Kings and conquerors have marched at the heads of armies across continents, and piled up aggregates of human suffering and experience to the heavens, and all the physical traces of their march have disappeared; the solitary biped which stalked along the margins of a New England inlet before the human race was born, pressed footprints in the soft and shifting sand, which the rising and sinking of a continent could not wipe out. The blood of the thousands and hundreds of thousands who fell on the hundred fiercely-contested fields of the Great Rebellion, and the traces of the manifold struggle they waged were all washed away by the next spring rains, while even the ripple-marks of the age of Saurians, and even the rain-drops of the passing shower are perpetuated in all their distinctness through ages. Man's history is not written on rocks and river shores. His monuments are not footmarks imprinted on the soils and sands of earth, but achievements of moral and intellectual labor, less perishable than the visible records of the Saurians, because inwrought into the lineaments of the indissoluble soul. For what are these Saurian footprints so carefully preserved, when man is the only intelligence that can duly ponder their significance? Are they not the materials of thought which Providence has kindly stored for a thinking race? Prof. Hitchcock has arranged a series of these impressions hinged as in book form. Prof. Winchell speaking further on these fossil foot-marks says: "Well might the heavenly-minded Hitchcock symbolize these teachings by the hinging of a pile of the rocky leaves into the similitude of a book. And happily did chance

or Providence direct the building of some sheets of this rocky volume into the walls of the University of Middletown, where the student, wearied and befogged in the perplexities of human dialects, could look upward to the library-stones of his *Abna Mater*, and refresh his soul with the interpretation of the language of the Omniscient."

It is in this last-mentioned fact that the above beautiful expression has connection with our "Novel Cabinet;" only the occurrence is at West Medford and in the walls of the Boston & Lowell Railroad station instead of a University. Already this one method of rendering the conception of minerals popular, has had its good effects, and I confidently expect to hear of further impressions, as soon as this "Guide" is placed in the hands of the parties interested. Without at all describing the appearance of the structure now under consideration, I will simply say that the building is a low, one-story station, the outside walls of which are entirely of stone. While in this guide I have paid no attention to the ordinary stones, not possessing a mineralogical interest, it will be proper to say that there are a great number of really interesting Lithological specimens to be noticed in these walls. When the masons first began the walls, they brought the faces of the rocks to a plumb surface, but after they once caught the idea of seeing how odd and rough a look they could possibly obtain, they altered the method of inserting them, and from the manner in which the stone is now set, a decidedly great improvement was made. The stones are as irregular and of as odd shapes and character as could be found and they are exactly as found, not trimmed in the least.

S. E. Corner.—About 20 inches from corner and same distance above ground is a profile of a lady's bust, Polished Breccia, Yt. Orthite Biforata, Ohio. Amazon Stone in green crystals, Pike's Peak, Col. Bladed Tremolite in Dolomite, Lee, Mass. Quartz Geodes, Peoria, Ill.

Trimmings of Window Mullions.—Quartz Geodes, with rare forms of crystals and Chalcedony coatings. A large cluster of terminal Quartz crystals, Devonshire, Eng.

From Window to S. Corner only.—Veined Felsites, Diodorites and weathered rocks. In the supports of the carriage porch are exceedingly fine varieties of quartz.

Around the S. Corner.—Hornblende, Serpentine and other rocks found at Chestnut Hill. Green Silicate refuse. I have heard someone call this Emerald. A Diabase boulder supports a post.

Window.—Then comes Pink feldspathic granites. Apatite crystals in pink Calcite, Renfrew, Canada. Section of lime deposit, originally part of a stactite. Bladed Tremolite from Lee, Mass. Polished red Granite. Crystals of Cinnamon Garnets, Sebago, Maine. Red Felsite, popularly mistaken for Jasper. Saugus, Mass. Several attractive Gneisses, Syenites and Quartzites.

West side Window.—Whale's tooth. This is given more as a guide than as a curious rock. Quartz, Serpentine coatings, Geode, Ill. Complicated crystallizations. Malachite from Siberia. Tourmaline crystals, some being Rubellite, others show green sides and also sections of green crystals with their pink centres, Chesterfield, Mass. Milky Quartz. Geode, Ill. Jeffersite, Chester, Pa. Brown Apatite crystals in pink calcite, with black blende, Can.

Window.—A wonderful freak of nature rests on a projecting shelf. By getting good perspective one hardly needs to be told it is an effigy of Gen. Geo. Washington. A drift rock found in Medford. Under his ear, back, are Galena cubes and in fact, with the traps from Salem, three or four geodes, Ill., brilliant drussy quartz points R. I., and a large fused quartz from Nova Scotia, we have a small collection serving as a frame for his figure. But we must not pass by the extra fine show of large quartz crystals standing out from four to five inches and two inches thick, from Hot Springs, Ark. Then pass along, noticing perhaps some striated rocks and veinings in feldspathic porphyry until you see the end of an Indian axe, with a deep groove. Passing by the window and near the roof a specimen of Gypsum from Grand Rapids, Mich. A mass of Coral. Glassy Slags. Feldspathic Granites.

Door.—Pyrite crystals of good color, giving all the beauty of Fool's Gold. A projecting blackish stone of a symmetrical form is a column of Basalt from the Giant's Causeway, Ireland. A beautiful specimen of black Hornblende crystals in quartzite from Conn. Once more we find Apatites in pink Calcite from Canada.

Window.—Geode, Ill. Copper Pyrite, Blue Hills, Me. Red Feldspar. Some good Quartz crystals. Magenta-colored Slags, also a green. A large mass of Feldspathic Granite, full of little Garnets

found in West Medford, Mass. Probably a drift rock. An Indian pestle. Garnets from Russell, Mass. "Forest Rock," a fern-like marking called a Dendrite. This is not due to moss or ferns but to a solution of Iron with Manganese infiltration, Dakota. Rose Quartz, Bad Lands, Dakota. Drussy Quartz. Slags.

West Corner.—Shell, a small piece of quartz and a good quartz containing a black crystal of Tourmaline. Warren, N. H.

Window.—A peculiar mass of fused bricks. Noble Serpentine. Newburyport, Mass. Aventurine quartz, Eng. Jasper. Perthite. Brown crystals from Canada. Tourmalines from Paris, Me. Sphere Pyroxene and Seapolite from N. Y. Polished Scotch Granite. Onyx.

Corner.—Here is a very large crystal of green Beryl from N. H. It should project, but as it is set plumb with surface. It is only noticed by its whitish basal cleavage color and the hexagonal or six-sided form of the prism. Large quartz geode, Ill. Refuse silicate resembling a Topaz color. Porphyry with its white feldspathic crystals sprinkled through the green mass. Slag. Hornblende. Little cluster of quartz crystals. Brown Tourmaline, N. Y. Polished Scotch Granite. Mouth of a Geyser, Wash. Ter. A half section twelve inches across, lined with yellow calcite cubical crystals. It seems to be mistaken by many for a petrified tree section.

Door.—Colophonite, a purplish staining associated with pyrite. Polished Syenite and a Freestone square.

Window.—Silvery micaceous granite.

Corner. Front.—Sea shell. Serpentine. A fine mass of Amethysts coated with pyrite. Large quartz mass. Copper pyrite, Blue Hills, Me. Greyish-yellow pyrite Blotite. Muscovite on Granite, Fitchburg, Mass.

Windows.—Slate slab for name of station set with 26 squares of polished granites, marbles, and syenites, making a choice assortment. Pyrite. Fossil Coral. The trimmings of the bay window in front contain a curious assortment of small specimens. Polished agate, Brazil; Agamatolite, Japan; Lake Superior Amethysts, Slags, Amygdaloid, Green Carbonate Copper, Pink Seapolite, Bolton, Mass.; Polished Red granite, Jasper, Pyrite, Barometer, Marble, Shell, Pyrite, Galena, Geode, Red granite.

Left Well.—Pyrite, Blue Hills, Me. Fossil Coral. Quartz crystals. Rose quartz.

Door to Ladies' Entrance. Two balls on corners. Coral. A fossil Ammonite, Texas. Brown Slag.

Window.—Slag. Fossil Calamite. Polished Granite. Dolomite, grey. Green Prehnite, Somerville, Mass. Red Felsite, Saugus, Mass. Geode from Ill. Tremolite in Dolomite. Calcite Pseudomorph, Somerville, Mass. Passing along around the corner we notice the profile of the White Lady's head for the second time, thus knowing an entire circuit has been completed.

Most of the specimens here mentioned do not possess any definite value, financially considered; but are only prized as far as their merits and scarceness have created for them, a demand for cabinet use. While this is true of many, there are, that, besides possessing the decidedly interesting features that is common to all minerals, more or less; are world-famed. Indeed, some of these specimens represent the localized species of some of the famous New England gems. To one who has closely followed this list throughout, they will remember, perhaps, only one name that they recognized as of gem species and that name might be the Amethyst. However, while the amethyst is a most beautiful stone, it has not acquired such financial magnitude as the less-familiar mineral. Tourmaline. Tourmalines are represented in our station by three or four very neat specimens. The large black one from Fitchburg was collected by Mrs. Beekman and myself, on a special trip for the same. These however are of no gem interest. The specimens marked Tourmaline from Paris, Me., are typical representatives of those that have been called the "Rose buds of Gems." This one locality has furnished the world with many thousands of dollars of these precious stones. Many of them are truly beautiful, and have been among some of the Royal Cabinets abroad. They come of all degrees of shades, colors and perfection, the specimens here represented are not gem specimens, they fully illustrate some of the interesting peculiarities of these gems.

On the south-west side a specimen is marked on our list as Tourmalines and Rubellite. This specimen contains needle-like crystals running through a white rock, or matrix. These needle-like crystals are colored very unevenly. Some of them begin with a bright pink and end with a green. Some are all pink, Rubellites. Others are blue, blue and pink, and

nearly green. In places where the crystals are broken across, those that appear green are found to possess pink centers. These green Tourmalines with pink centers are beautiful when occurring in transparent pieces capable of being cut. No prettier method of becoming acquainted with the concealed beauties of "rocks" can be obtained, than the lessons that are awaiting attention as given by many of the species to be found in this "Novel Cabinet." I would suggest to one who really desires to see how far these minerals can be made to assume such romantic aspects that surely will satisfy the most frivolous of minds, to read the interesting little work called "The Tourmalines," by Dr. Hamlin. The pleasing account of these gems as there given, is only one example of the many that come to one while for the first time investigating the beauties of the "Flowers of the Mineral Kingdom."

*See "Popular Mineralogy," by W. S. Beekman. Pub. by C. J. Maynard & Co., Boston.

A Curious Nest.

BY H. R. TAYLOR.

On September 15th 1886, while observing the birds about Pacific Grove, near Monterey, I wandered into a field thickly covered with lupine bushes. Although too late in the season for nests with eggs, I thought it would be interesting to see what birds, if any, had raised their young among the lupines, and so began a search for old nests. I found but one deserted bird's nest, but was well repaid for my labor by the discovery of several nests of some species of a mouse, which were built in the bushes. One nest built in a lupine bush, about three feet above the ground, is rather neatly constructed of fine dry grasses and inclined to be spherical in shape. The entrance hole, which is small, was entirely concealed and difficult to find. The base of the nest is much firmer than the upper walls, which seem built on strictly hygienic principles, allowing plenty of ventilation. It was quite firmly attached to the twigs of the bush. Another nest was somewhat smaller and was occupied by one which jumped from the nest as I enclosed it with my hand. It seems strange that mice should desert the abundance of dry grass on the ground, to build in such a position, but in doing so they probably escape some dreaded enemy who cannot find them in their lofty retreat.

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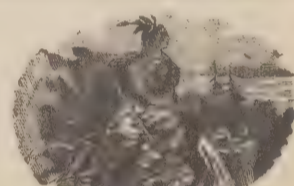
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In 1808 the design was changed to the turban head, facing to the observer's left. There are 7 stars facing and 6 behind. A band inscribed "Liberty" is tied across the



head and the hair is curled gracefully below. Reverse: "One Cent" in two lines in the centre with a point between them and a dash below surrounded by a single wreath with the ends tied together at the



bottom. There is also what is known as the "12 star variety," the lower star to the left being struck so weak that it is very indistinct. The same design was continued in 1809, but coppers of this date are quite scarce and rank next to the cent of 1793 in rarity. The 1810 copper has both plain date and overstrike over 1809. The 1811 cent which is quite rare, is also found over 1810. Those of 1810, 1812, 1813 and 1814 are more common. There are several varieties of the cent of 1814; on some varieties the 4 is plain, on others smaller and with a stroke at the end of the horizontal bar, also the "double chin" variety. There were no cents coined in 1815.

This is the only break from 1793 to the present time. In 1816 the design on the



obverse was changed to head of Liberty, with a band inscribed "Liberty." The head is much broader than that of the cents of 1808-14, and the hair is put up in a knob at the back part of the head, and there is no break in the line of stars which surround the bust at regular intervals. According to Andrews' "Arrangement of United States Copper Cents" there are more than 400 varieties from 1816 to 1857, inclusive. He gives the number of varieties of the cent of 1816 as nine and of 1817 as sixteen. There are varieties of the cent of 1817 with 13, also with 15 stars, and another variety with a "top-knot," caused by a slight break in the die at the top of the head. There are also many varieties of the cents of 1818, 1819 and 1820, among which are large and small dates of 1819, also that date over 1818, and 1820 over 1819, and varieties of 1818 and 1820 have the stars connected, caused by a crack in the die. The cents of 1821 and 1823 are rare in fine condition while those of 1822 are common. There are over-dates of 1823 over 1822 and 1824 over 1823. There are large and small dates of 1828 and 1835, also a variety of the latter date with the head of the 1836 cent besides many more minor varieties too numerous to mention. There are



several varieties of the cent of 1839, the most important of which are the 1839 over



1836, the obverse and reverse like the cent of 1838, the "Silly" head which has a lock of hair on the forehead, and the "Booby" head, which has an altogether differ-

ent expression. The Silly head has a bar



under cents on the reverse, which is lacking on the Booby head variety. The head



of the 1840 variety is much smaller and the hair is braided over the forehead. There are large and small dates of 1840 and 1842, and 1843 with obverse and re-



verse of 1842, also obverse of 1842 and reverse of 1844, and both obverse and reverse of 1844, and large and small dates of 1846. There are also varieties of 1855



and 1856 with Hollie 5, and large and small dates of 1857, besides many minor varieties. The Jefferson head variety of 1795 is the rarest copper cent, followed by 1799, 1804, 1798, 1809, 1811, 1796, 1795 and 1823. Coins not yet collected by more people than any other coin, one reason being that a fair collection can be collected together for a comparatively small amount of money, then there is but one year in which none were coined, and there are so many varieties they make a very interesting study, but it takes a microscope, backed by a good eye to discover some of the minute varieties, yet this makes it all the more interesting. A complete set of copper cents in good condition would cost quite a fortune. A few years ago at an auction sale, 88 copper cents brought \$1.25.

The "flying eagle" cent of 1856 was made of 88 per cent copper and 12 per cent nickel. On the obverse is an eagle, volant, with the legend "United States of



America," and the date below. Reverse: "One Cent" in two lines in the centre, surrounded by a wreath of cereals. The weight is 72 grains. In 1859 the eagle was succeeded by an Indian head with a crown of feathers fastened by a band inscribed "Liberty." Reverse: a laurel wreath takes the place of the cereal. In 1860 the laurel wreath gave place to the wreath of oak having a shield which separates the ends at the top. In 1864 the nickel cent was succeeded by the bronze cents, both varieties being coined this year. The alloy was 95 per cent copper and 2 1-2 per cent each of copper and tin, and the weight was reduced to 48 grains. There have been no further changes to the present. The nickel cent of 1856 is the only rare date of the small cents.

STAMP ISSUING COUNTRIES AND THEIR STAMPS.

BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

II. CHILE.

Chile, one of the South American Republics was subjugated in 1450 by the Peruvians, who retained possession of it until 1535, when they were driven out by the Spaniards under Almagro. Three years later the Spaniards were driven out by a general uprising of the natives. In 1540, Pizarro attempted to colonize the country and in February, 1541 founded the city of Santiago. In attempting to extend his colonies he left his settlements exposed to repeated attacks of the natives.

His lieutenant, Pedro de Valdivia founded the cities of Concepcion, Imperial and Valdivia but he was finally captured by the natives and killed. In 1598 the Araucanians captured Imperial, Valdivia and several other towns, and shortly afterwards the Dutch plundered Chiloe and massacred the garrison. Peace was restored in 1641 between the Araucanians and Spaniards which lasted about fourteen years, after which came a long and bloody war of ten years duration. In 1722 a conspiracy was formed for the purpose of exterminating the whites, but it was frustrated. In 1742 the country was divided into provinces and several new cities formed, then came another three years war. In 1809, a revolutionary movement took place and fortune favored the cause of independence, but in 1814 the flame of liberty was nearly extinguished by a royalist party from Peru. The revolutionists were finally successful and in 1817, Chile became independent.

The area of Chile is 182,790 square miles and the population is about 2,500,000, besides nearly 50,000 Indians. It is a very mountainous country and is subject to frequent earthquakes. It has nearly every variety of climate from that of the hot deserts near the Equator to the cold and wet region within twelve degrees of the Antarctic circle. About one fourth of the country is near the sea level and the great Andes range of mountains rises far above the line of perpetual snow, Aconcagua, the highest peak being 22,427 feet above the level of the sea. By the Constitution, adopted in 1833, the Legislative power consists of a National Congress of 37 members who are elected for a term of 6 years, and a Chamber of Deputies composed of 109 members who are elected for three years. There is universal suffrage to all citizens who are able to read and write and pay a small annual tax. The executive power consists of the President who is elected for five years, a Council of State and five Cabinet Ministers. Chile has a large commerce, the exports in 1883 amounting to \$71,649,522 and the imports to \$49,438,021, about one half of which is with Great Britain. Agriculture is successfully carried on although nearly 82 per cent of the area of the country is desert, pasture or forest, leaving only about 18 per cent of the area suitable for cultivation. Wheat is the most important product and the average crop is about 10,000,000 bushels per annum, about two thirds of which is exported. There are rich deposits of gold and silver, and copper is abundant. Education is largely aided by the government which supports nearly 1,000 schools throughout the country, also the University of Chile, a government institution with accommodations for about 700 students, and free instruction. The religion recognized by the Constitution is the Roman Catholic, but the public profession of other forms is tolerated.

Postage Stamps were first introduced into Chile in 1852. They were of the following design: Profile of Columbus to



left on engined turned, circular disk, "Colon" above, "Chile" below, in curved lines. At the top, in a curved line, "Correos Porte Franco" and the value at the bottom, also in a curved line. Two varieties, the 5 centavos red brown and 10 centavos blue, were issued on bluish paper and are unperforated. The following values of the same design were issued on white paper, and are also unperforated:

- 1 centavo, yellow.
- 5 centavos, red brown.
- 5 " red.
- 10 " blue.
- 20 " green.

In 1867 there was a new issue, of the following design: Profile of Columbus



facing to the observer's left, on engine turned circular disk; "Chile" above, "Colon" below, in curved lines. At top, in a curved line, "Correos Porte Franco," and at the bottom, the value. Numerals of value in upper corners and stars in the

lower corners. Ornamented frame. Perforated. Following are the values:

- 1 centavo, orange.
- 2 centavos, black.
- 5 " red.
- 10 " blue.
- 20 " green.

In 1877 another new issue made its appearance. On the upper half of the



stamp is the profile of Columbus and "Colon" below. In the lower half is large numeral of value crossed by "Centavos" in a curved line. Value on the left, "Porte



Franco" on the right, "Chile" at the bottom and stars in lower corners. Ornamented frame. Rouletted.

- 1 centavo, black.
- 2 centavos, orange.
- 5 " lake.
- 10 " blue.
- 20 " green.

Stamps with the "Centavos" below the



numeral were issued, as follows:

- 1881. 1 centavo, green.
- 1881. 2 centavos, rose.
- 1881. 5 " lake.
- 1881. 10 " blue.
- 1885. 10 " orange.
- 1886. 20 " gray.
- 1878. 50 " violet.

In 1880, three varieties of revenue stamps were used for postage, viz:

- 1 centavo, red.
- 2 centavos, brown.
- 5 " blue.

Stamped Envelopes were first used in 1872. The designs of the stamps vary



considerable, but all have the profile of Columbus facing to the left on solid disk, "Chile" above and "Porte Franco" and value at sides and bottom. All values are printed on white, blue and also on buff paper. Following are the values:

- 5 centavos, violet.
- 10 " blue.
- 15 " pink.
- 20 " green.

An "officially sealed" stamp was issued in 1885. It is oblong in shape; above, "Administracion de Correos" in a curved line, "Cierro Oficial" in a straight line in the centre, the two words being separated by a star, "Valparaiso, Chile" in a curved line at the bottom. Ornamented, and perforated.

The Stamp Dealers of the World.

We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the addresses of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as it is possible to make it, and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 10 cents, or three for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

United States and Canada. 25c
Foreign Countries, 37c

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inch for one insertion. \$3 per inch for
four insertions.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H.,
as Second Class Matter.

APRIL, 1887.

OUR AGENTS.

W. A. Tuck, Box 602, Nashua, N. H.
Charles P. Wilcomb, Lake Village, N. H.
Geo. H. Richmond, 5 Beekman St. New York.
Robert W. Manier, Drawer, D. Binghamton, N. Y.
E. B. Cornwell, Rubicon, Wis.
Amateur Newspaper Agency, Davisburgh, Pa.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

The May number of this paper will go
to press about the 15th day of April.
2,800 copies will be published and we will
insert TRIAL ADVERTISEMENTS for
75 cents per inch, or three inches for \$2.
Terms, cash with the copy.

The *Stamps Collectors' Figaro* published
by E. W. Voute, of Chicago, has just
made its appearance.

The CURIOSITY WORLD, of Lake Village,
N. H., is the largest and best curiosity
paper published.—*The Eclipse*.

For only 25 cents we will send post free
to any address, one copy each of the
"Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the
World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and
Sell." Every collector should own a set
of these books, and now is the time to
buy them.

Mr. W. P. Young of Jamaica Plain,
Mass., sent for our inspection a letter
which went round the world. It left Bos-
ton, Dec. 14, 1886, and returned to Mr.
Young March 12, 1887, making the trip in
just 88 days. It bears the post-marks of
New York, Brussels, Paris, Alexandria,
Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and
San Francisco, besides several others
which are indistinct.

Hereafter we shall charge five cents each
for all Exchange Notices of 24 words or
less and 10 cents for all notices over 24
words and under 48, and the column will
be open to the public at these rates, wheth-
er they are subscribers or not. We have
made this change for several reasons: we
want to publish all the reading matter we
possibly can. We have about 300 ex-
change notices on hand, or as many as we
should spare space to publish in six
months. If we insert them in
the order they are received they will
be several months behind time, and in
many cases the articles mentioned would
be disposed of before the notice appear-
ed. Any exchange notice that is not
worth five cents is not worth publishing
at all, yet if we have a free list, there is
no place to draw the line and we have to
publish all of them. Five cents is a very
modest sum, yet we think it will cause
a considerable falling off in the number of
notices received and that we shall be able
to publish them as fast as they are re-
ceived. This rule will at least shut out
the "postal card fiends," many of whom
seem to care little for the exchange no-
tice other than to see their name in print.

One of our fifteen cent exchanges which
gives away a stamp worth ten cents to
each of the first 10 persons who subscribe
for the paper, seems to take pride in the
fact that they received 69 subscriptions in
one month. Well, the December issue of
the CURIOSITY WORLD brought us over
300 subscriptions, but we never thought
of dragging about it before. This is only
our eighth number, but unless we are
greatly mistaken our number of paid up
subscriptions stands just No. 3 when
compared with the lists of our contempor-
aries which have been established several
years, and if the subscriptions continue
to come in during the next four months
as fast as they have for the last four, we
think we shall commence Vol. II with as
large a subscription list as any of them.
We are perfectly satisfied with the result,
so far. Our subscription list is paying all
the expenses of the paper, and we have
all we receive from advertisements for
profit, besides the benefit of our own ad-
vertisements. Unlike the majority of
publishers of Stamp, Coin and Curiosity
papers, we have nothing to growl about
and no one to find fault with. We are
doing our very best to make the WORLD
a first class paper in every respect, and
judging by our subscription list we are
succeeding, far beyond our expectations.

We are informed that the Carson Stamp
Co., of St. Louis, Mo., are about to with-
draw from the Stamp business.

We are willing to give every Curiosity
Collector a sample copy of this paper, and
only one. We keep a record of every sam-
ple copy sent out, and if you want to see
us again, you must subscribe.

For some time past we have been think-
ing of making this paper a semi-monthly,
publishing 24 numbers a year instead of
12 as at present. We want just an even
3,000 subscribers, and we will give them
two issues every month, as good as the
present issue if not better. The indications
are that we shall reach that number of
subscriptions very soon; then if our
readers want the paper twice a month at
fifty cents a year, they shall have it.

The second edition of Davie's "Egg
Check List and Key to the Nests and Eggs
of North American Birds" is a book of
184 pages with seven full page engravings
and will delight the heart of every collec-
tor of Bird's Eggs. Nearly 800 species of
birds are correctly named and numbered,
and general descriptions of both birds
and eggs are given. Price, Post free, \$1.
Address this office.

At the earnest request of a large num-
ber of our readers, we have decided to
add a Puzzle Department. If our readers
take kindly to the new departure, we shall
devote more space to it: if not, it will be
discontinued. We aim to give our readers
just what they want, every time, and if
the majority want a puzzle department
—or any thing else—we shall endeavor to
comply with their wishes, to the best of
our ability.

The *Ornithologist & Oologist*, is a fine
magazine for those interested in those
branches of Natural History. The matter
is original and direct from active Natural-
ists throughout the country. Handling
its subjects in a plain, matter of fact
manner, it offers the freest and best me-
dium for an interchange of notes and
views. Send 10 cents for a sample copy
to Frank B. Webster, 409 Washington
St., Boston, Mass.

Mr. Thomas C. Watkins, the founder,
and for over two years Editor of the
Empire State Philatelist, has severed his
connection with the paper. He has been
in poor health the past year and is com-
pelled to give up work for the present,
at least. Mr. Watkins is a fine writer,
as everyone knows who has ever read the
articles by "T. Coke," in the leading
Philatelic papers. We trust he may soon
regain his usual good health and be able
to wield the pen for the advancement of
Philately, as in days gone by.

It looks to us as though the American
Philatelic Association is needlessly throw-
ing away from one to two hundred dollars
a year. As we understand it, the Associa-
tion pays the Official Editor \$10 per month
salary. It must cost at least \$10 a month
more to print and mail the Official Organ,
besides postage, stationery, etc. Sub-
scriptions are not received or advertise-
ments inserted, so there is nothing coming
in to help defray the expenses. We give
our idea of the situation for what it is
worth. Since the matter of an American
Philatelic Association was first agitated,
nearly a year ago, Mr. S. B. Bradt, our
Secretary, has done more to make it a
success than any other man. As is well
known, he is the editor of the *Western
Philatelist* and one of the proprietors.
Now, if arrangements could be made with
Mr. Bradt so that he could afford to add
say four or five pages to his paper for the
use of the Association, and send the pa-
per free to all members, it would be a
great benefit to the Association. Of course
we do not know what it costs Mr. Bradt
to publish his paper, but should judge
that for the amount paid the Official
Editor he could afford to add four pages
a month for the use of the Association
and send the paper free to members.
Perhaps he could not afford to do it for
that amount but if he could, and would,
the Association would save at least \$100
a year and probably much more. One
hundred dollars, even, does not grow on
every bush—in New Hampshire, anyway,
—and if even that amount could be saved
every year, it certainly is worth saving,
besides Mr. Bradt's paper has a circulation
of about a thousand copies to every hun-
dred of the Official Organ, and if we
mistake not it would be the means of
adding many new members, who would
otherwise know very little and care still
less about the Association. We fail to
see how, with less than two hundred
members, and the expenses as much as
at present, the Association can "make both
ends meet." If Mr. Bradt could be induced
to do as we have suggested, it is our
opinion it would help the Association very
much. We are not in the habit of
"blowing" very much for rival publishers
but in this matter all members should be
interested and willing to do all they can
to make the Association a success.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

BRAZIL.—Stamps of the value of 300
reis, blue, and 500 reis olive are now in
use. The former has five stars and the
latter a crown in a circle.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—The sur-
charge on the half penny is found in both
red and black.

CRYLON.—A new postal card is out:
5 cents blue on buff.

COCHIN CHINA.—Another 5 c. provisional
has been made from the 2c. French Colo-
nies, issue of 1881.

GRENADA.—The inscription on the
penny stamp has been changed to read
"Postage and Revenue."

INDIA.—Of the new issue the 4 annas
and 6 pies, green, is now in use.

MACAO.—Stamps of the new type of the
Portuguese Colonies are being prepared.

MAURITIUS.—The color of the 50 cents
has been changed to orange, it is said.

NEW REPUBLIC.—Two more values are
announced, viz: 6 pence, and one shilling,
both printed in lilac on buff.

PERAK.—A 1 cent post card is announ-
ced.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Stamps of the
value of 2 shillings and 6 pence, lilac, and
5 shillings rose, have been issued.

TIMOR.—A new series is being prepared.

TRANSVAAL.—A provisional 2 pence has
been made by surcharging the 3 pence
lilac of the current issue.

Subscribe for the WORLD.

Major E. B. Evans suggests that those
who want a longer name than *philatelic*
should use the word "*philatelistical*."

"The Curiosity World," published by J.
M. Hubbard, of Lake Village, N. H., is
one of the finest. Mr. Hubbard, its pub-
lisher, is a man of sterling integrity and
ability, and has considerable experience
in this line.—*Stamp World*.

"Rare American Coins, their Descrip-
tion and Past and Present Fictitious
Values" is the title of a new book by E.
Locke Mason. It contains nearly fifty
illustrations and is very interesting and
instructive. Price, 25 cents. Address
this office.

"That ever industrious Granite State
lad, Mr. John M. Hubbard, favors us with
a copy of the CURIOSITY WORLD, which
surpasses in typographical work and ex-
cells in literary worth its predecessor, the
Granite State Philatelist. We wish you all
deserving success."—*Philatelic Magazine*.

It is singular how few Philatelic writers
there are. Our greatest difficulty is get-
ting good articles on Philatelic subjects.
While we are filling up one page with
articles on Philately, we could easily fill a
dozen pages, with matter relating to Num-
ismatics, Ornithology, Oology etc. This is
not as it should be. The Good Book
tells us that we should not hide our light
under a bushel. Stamp collectors should
not keep all their knowledge to themselves
but give others the benefit of their experi-
ence and observation, through the
medium of the Philatelic press. We
hardly like the idea of offering prizes for
the best articles, as the older writers,
those who have had more experience,
will obtain the prize and the new writer
will get nothing to pay him for his time
and trouble. We think it is a much better
plan to pay for every article according to
its merit, and hope some of our readers
will take the hint and send us an article
now and then. It certainly cannot hurt
you and may do you—and many others as
well—much good.

The *Stamp World* is no more. Its title,
good will and subscription list has been
turned over to the Western Philatelist
Publishing Company of Chicago, and it
will be consolidated with their paper.
Thus, Philately loses an old landmark, so
to speak. The *Stamp World* made its
first appearance in 1880 and was published
by Clinton Collins and F. L. Mills. Mr.
Mills afterward withdrew from the firm,
but when Mr. Collins entered Harvard
College in '82, he leased the paper for a
term of years to his former partner.
Under the management of Mr. Mills the
paper was a decided success and was
known throughout the Philatelic world
as one of the best papers published in
this, or any other country. When Mr.
Collins returned from College last year,
he resumed control of the paper and has
continued its publication from that time
to March. A short time since Mr. Collins
added and *Wise and Otherwise* to the name
of the paper and devoted part of the space
to general literature. The *World* was,
with one exception, the oldest Philatelic
paper published in the United States, and
we are sorry it has appeared for the last
time. But three numbers of the *Western
Philatelist* have been published as yet, but
those numbers are strictly first class and,
backed by such men as S. B. Bradt, P. M.
Wolsifer and C. R. Gadsden, it is
sure to be both a Philatelic and a financial
success.

The New York Post Office.

BY GUSTAV AUE.

In 1642 the Post Office of the city of
New York was kept in a "rack" in the
coffee house then at the head of Centies
slip and the tavern keeper was the Post-
master. In 1692 the post office was lo-
cated at 62 Broadway. Richard Nichol who
kept a grocery store at that number was
the postmaster. There were but about
4800 inhabitants in the city then. Alexan-
der Colden was the next postmaster in
1765 and was succeeded by William Bed-
low in 1783. In 1786 Sebastian Baum-
ann was the postmaster and in 1803 Josiah
Ten Eyck held that office. General The-
odoros Bailey was the next. In 1804 he
changed the location to 29 William St.,
and was postmaster for nearly 25 years.
During the year 1822 (better known as
the yellow fever year) the post office was
temporarily moved to Bank and Fourth
Streets.

In 1825 the post office was moved to
the Academy Building in Garden Street,
(now Exchange Place), and in 1827 was
moved into the basement of the Mer-
chants' Exchange, a handsome white mar-
ble building in Wall Street. In 1828 Sam-
uel Gouverneur became postmaster. The
post office was destroyed in the great fire
of December 16th 1835. It was tempora-
rily moved to Pine St., near Nassau, and
from there to the rotunda in the City Hall
Park. James Page was the next postmas-
ter in 1836 and was succeeded by Jonathan
J. Coddington in 1837 and John L. Gra-
ham in 1841. During his administration
the location of the post office was changed
to the building formerly occupied by
the Middle Dutch Church, which was situ-
ated on the present site of the Mutual
Life Insurance Building on Nassau St.,
between Liberty and Cedar, and is note-
worthy for its history. It was erected
before the Revolution and much of its in-
terior woodwork and steeple was brought
from Holland. During the Revolutionary
war this church in common with others
used by the British, was much injured
from its occupation as a prison, hospital,
etc. In 1790 it was repaired and again
used for public worship, in which service
it continued until rented by the U. S. Gov-
ernment for the General Post Office for
this city.

Robert H. Morris became postmaster in
1845 and he was succeeded by William V.
Brady in 1849, Isaac V. Fowler in 1853,
John A. Dix in 1860, Wm. B. Taylor in
1861, Abraham Wakemann in 1862, James
Kelly in 1865, Patrick H. Jones in 1869,
Thomas L. James in 1873.

Business ceased at the old post office in
Nassau street at 10 o'clock P. M., on Aug-
ust 28th, 1875 and was moved into the
new Post Office Building, which is the
most imposing of all the public edifices
in the city and is located at the
junction of Broadway and Park Row.
No Post Office building in the world, I
believe exceeds this in size. It consists
of four stories, a cellar and basement. The
materials used in its construction are
granite, iron, brick, wood and glass; the
former coming from an island off the
coast of Maine. It was completed in the
summer of 1875 and occupied nearly seven
years in its erection and cost between
six and seven million dollars. The style
of architecture adopted is that known as
the Doric, modified however by the Re-
naissance.

The north front of the building is two
hundred and ninety feet in length, the
Broadway front three hundred and forty
feet and the Park Row front three hun-
dred and twenty feet in the clear. On
each of these two fronts, however, there
is an angle running back some distance
and then projecting forms the entrance,
looking down Broadway. The entire
width of this front is one hundred and
thirty feet. These entering angles and
projecting portico give this front a very
bold striking appearance.

The basement consists of one vast de-
partment which is devoted to the sorting
of letters and making up of the mails;
the first floor is used as the receiving de-
partment, comprising the money order
and registering offices, stamp and enve-
lope bureaus and postmaster's and secre-
taries' private rooms. There are no few-
er than twelve elevators for the various
purposes of the establishment, and for
light and heat, the most perfect contriv-
ances known to art have been adopted.
About one hundred and forty million let-
ters, etc. are delivered annually and an
equal number sent away. Over fifteen
hundred men are employed and communi-
cation is kept up with nearly thirty-six
thousand offices.

Henry G. Pearson, the present post-
master, was appointed by President Gar-
field in 1881 and re-appointed last year
by President Cleveland. He is well acquaint-
ed with all the workings of the office hav-
ing been Assistant Postmaster under
Thomas L. James. The New York Post
Office could not be in better hands than it
is at present.

THE IDEAL SETS OF STAMPS,

—(FOR SALE BY)—

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
Lake Village, N. H.

COUNTRY,	USED SETS.	PRICE.
Austria, Telegraph, 8 var. comp.		\$ 15
Bavaria, '70, 7 var.		05
Bolivar, '70, 4 var. complete,		35
Brazil, '50-'85, 15 var.		20
Bulgaria, 7 var.		25
Cape of Good Hope, 1-2d to 5s 10 var.		20
Chili, '77-'81, 9 var.		15
Denmark, '75, 10 var. complete,		05
Egypt, '79, 8 var.		30
Guadeloupe, unpaid, '85, 7 var. comp.		75
Guatemala, '81, 5 var. comp.		15
Heligoland, '67, 8 var. comp.		15
Holland, unpaid, 5 & 10c.		07
Honduras, '75, 5 var.		15
Hong Kong, 15 var.		35
Hungary, '75, 5 var. comp.		05
India service, 5 var.		10
Italy, Emanuel, 12 var.		10
Seguins, 10 var.		15
Surinam, 2c. 8 var. comp.		08
Tamul, '58-'75, 7 var. comp.		20
Japan, 12 var.		20
Mexico, '74, 7 var. complete,		30
'84, 11 var. 1c to 50c.		40
15 var.		30
Norway, '72, 6 var. comp.		65
Persia, '72, 6 var. comp.		65
St. Domingo, '81, 6 var.		1 00
'81, 9 var. comp.		30
Salvador, '67, 4 var. comp.		30
Straits Settlements, 12 var.		06
Sweden, '72, 11 var.		15
Switzerland, '61, 10 var. complete,		20
Transvaal, '93, 5 var. complete,		22
U. S. of Columbia, '81, 5 var. comp.		15
UNUSED SETS.		
Alsace and Lorraine, inverted type reset,		25
7 var. complete,		25
Baden, '62, 6 var. inc. 30 kr.		19
Land Post, 3 var. complete,		25
Env. '62, 3 var.		25
Bavaria, '70, 7 var. complete,		11
Return Letter, 6 var. complete,		10
Retour-brief, 8 var.		15
Unpaid, 1 & 3 kr.		06
Bergedorf, 5 var.		65
Bhopal, '81, 5 var. comp.		25
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AUTOGRAPHS FOR SALE.

James Monroe, A. L. S., 3pp. 4to, 1827, a magnificent
letter on public affairs.
James Monroe, A. L. S., 2pp, 4to, 1830, an equally
fine letter.
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sirable specimen.
James Monroe, D. S., as President.
Millard Fillmore, A. L. S., 1 p., 4to, 1850, an interest-
ing private letter.
Andrew Jackson, Muster Roll signed as Major
General, 1812.
John Tyler, Signature—
Andrew Johnson, Signature; the rarest President.
Andrew Johnson, Postmaster's commission signed
as President; very rare.
U. S. Grant; Portion of a D. S.
5 Original pay rolls of the Revolutionary war, 1777,
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Signers of the Declaration.

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ly rare.
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letter.
Gen Wm. Heath, A. D. S., 1p, 4to, 1806.
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Leigh Hunt, A. L., 1p, 4to.
CHARLES THE SECOND, King of Eng-
land, D. S., 1-2p, folio.
Victoria, Signature.
This is only a partial list of what I have on hand.
A list of everything will be cheerfully furnished to
any collector who cares to write for it. I have several
wants in my own collection and would much rather
exchange than sell for anything I need. Collectors
will do well to send me a list of their wants.

HOWARD K. SANDERSON, Lynn, Mass.

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Bands. They have relieved hundreds and
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AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.
The Signers of the Declaration of Independence.
BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.
PART IV.

[This article begun in our January number. Subscriptions may commence with that issue if so desired.—ED.]

Benjamin Franklin we have need to say but little of. All know the part he took in the struggle and of his importance in the war. Dr. Franklin was a very poor penman but could say some very good things with his quill. An autograph letter is worth fifteen dollars and a document six, all depending upon their condition. He rarely signed his name in full, contenting himself with plain "B. Franklin," and a flourish.

John Morton was a Swede. Not much of his life is known, excepting that he was a justice and sheriff. Upon the vote for independence he found himself in a trying position. The members from Pa. were equally divided and it became his great duty to give a deciding vote which he did in favor of independence, thus securing his state for the measure. His fellow members who voted contrary to it, it will be remembered were dropped at the next election. Mr. Morton died in 1777. A document signed by him is worth \$25, while a letter is almost unheard of, yet there are a few in existence. The most common form of his name is upon a Continental Currency note, in that shape is worth about \$1.

Mr. George Clymer was in 1775 chosen a member of the Council of Safety and one of the first Continental Treasurers. On the 20th of July 1776 he was elected a member of Congress, and though not present when the vote was taken, he was permitted to sign the paper. He was a man universally respected, holding many important offices in after life. He died in 1813, aged 74. An autograph letter of Mr. Clymer is not rare, being worth from five to ten dollars. He wrote his name in a large, plain hand, bringing the initial of his last name with a sweep around the whole.

James Smith was an Irishman and one of the names which, if an autograph collector could strike from the list, he would. A letter is worth \$35 and it is about the only form in which the name can be found. He was an active partizan in the war and aided materially in passing the Declaration. In 1800 he withdrew from the bar, having been in practice for sixty years. He died in 1806.

George Taylor was also an Irishman, but few of the events of his life are known. He came into prominence in 1764 as a member of the Provincial assembly, serving several years. He was chosen to the Continental Congress in 1776, taking his seat upon the 20th of July. As was the case with Mr. Clymer and others he was not present to vote for the Declaration but was allowed to sign it. He died in 1781. An autograph letter of Mr. Taylor would probably bring \$35, and it is of extreme rarity. A letter signed is worth from eight to ten dollars.

James Wilson was a Scotchman, coming to this country in 1766. He was an American at once and espoused the cause of liberty. In 1774 he became a member of the Provincial congress and in the following year took his seat in the higher body and gave his vote for independence. Pres. Washington appointed him a Supreme judge during his first term. He was a man six feet tall, and of commanding presence. An autograph letter of Mr. Wilson is seldom seen and yet it is of no great value. Ten dollars should buy a fine specimen.

Geo. Ross was the last of the Pennsylvania delegation to sign the Declaration. He did not take his seat until the 20th of July, being one of those who signed the paper after its adoption. He was a firm patriot, but little is known of him. In 1779 he was appointed judge of the Court of Admiralty for Pa., but died the same year. An autograph letter is worth \$30 and excessively rare. His writing was very poor.

The Maryland delegation was four. Samuel Chase was the most prominent of them all. In 1774 he was elected to Congress from Maryland and served with distinction for several years. He gave his vote and signature for independence. His handwriting is very rare, a letter being worth from fifteen to twenty dollars and a document five dollars. He was one of the poorest writers among the Signers.

Wm. Paca entered Congress in 1774, voted for and signed the Declaration. He was appointed Supreme judge of his state in 1778 and in 1782 he was chosen governor. He died in 1799. Mr. Paca's signature was a remarkable one. The writer has a commission signed as governor, in letters an *inch high*. In the form of a letter he is rare, being worth fifteen dollars. A document signed is worth about a dollar.

Thomas Stone's autograph is of extreme rarity. Search high and low, far and

wide and one will hardly meet the name. A good letter is worth \$50, but one is very seldom offered. He came into prominence in 1774 when he entered Congress and in 1776 he signed his name to the Declaration. In 1777 he was a member to draft articles of confederation. He died in 1787 at the age of forty-five.

Charles Carroll of Carrollton was the wealthiest man in the colonies and was a most prominent man in the trying times of the war. He did not take his seat in Congress until the eighteenth of July, but had the honor of affixing his name to the engrossed copy of the Declaration on the 2nd of August. When asked if he would sign his name, he said "Most willingly," and seizing his pen instantly signed his name. "There go a few millions," said some one who watched the pen as it traced his name. Millions would indeed have gone had not success crowned the American army, for his fortune was great. At the opening of the present century he was an old man, but his years were lengthened out. He saw his old comrades one by one leave him for another world—his faithful friends Adams and Jefferson both died on the anniversary day of independence in 1826. This left him alone at the age of 89. His fellow-members were all gone and he only of the fifty-six was left. His life was prolonged until 1832, when he passed away at the age of 95. Mr. Carroll's autograph is not rare, a good business letter being worth perhaps \$5. A letter of Revolutionary date, however, is worth a large sum. His name is invariably signed "Charles Carroll, of Carrollton."

Virginia was an important colony. The seat of war was off within her borders and the final breaking up of the King's troops occurred in one of her towns. With General Washington at their head, there came forth from this state a great and patriotic company of men who did gallant work in the establishment of independence. Her delegation in the Continental Congress was equalled in numbers by Pennsylvania only, and in importance, perhaps by none of the others. It consisted of Mr. Geo. Wythe, Richard Henry and Francis Lightfoot Lee, Benj. Harrison, the father of the President, Gen. Thomas Nelson, Carter Braxton and Thomas Jefferson.

Of these, Mr. Jefferson was, of course, the central figure. He was 33 years old, over six feet tall, dignified and possessed of much wisdom. He had early studied the law under Mr. Wythe, the old gentleman who was now a fellow member in Congress, and had been admitted to the bar ten years before. At the age of 25 he had entered the house of Burgesses in his native state and risen rapidly until 1773, when he served on the first committee of correspondence appointed by the colonies. In 1775 he took his seat in Congress and was, as we have said in a former paper, appointed in 1776 as chairman of the committee to draft the Declaration. From his pen, therefore, came the great document and it was adopted with but few changes. In a collection of autographs of these men, therefore, the name of Thomas Jefferson should be placed first. His letters are not rare, being the exception rather than the rule. He wrote a peculiar little angular hand, especially in later years, signing his name in that odd form so well known to collectors. "Th: Jefferson." Four dollars should place a fair letter in any album. We all know of his later years, how he became a Governor of Virginia, a Vice President and then his country's President, and of his pathetic death on the 4th of July 1826, fifty years after he had signed the Declaration, passing away two hours before his old friend John Adams, a strange coincidence; the two old patriots, the only survivors of the Signers excepting Mr. Carroll, crossing over the dark river and nearly closing that great chapter in our country's history.

Richard Henry Lee was another distinguished member from Virginia. We have already referred to him at length and it will not be necessary to rehearse the great part he took in the stirring events of 1776. He died in 1794 at the age of sixty three. To few men have been accorded the honor that was extended to him. He died universally respected and mourned. Mr. Lee wrote a plain, business hand, with no attempt at flourish, signing his name in full. A good, clean letter can be bought for six or seven dollars. The writer owns one written in 1780 to Thomas Jefferson in regard to Gen. Gates and Lafayette which he values at seven dollars. The name is not rare and is readily obtained.

(To be continued.)

Hints on Insect Collecting.

This little book contains a large amount of information relating to the capture and mounting of insects for the cabinet, and is recommended by the Agassiz Association. Price 10c., or 3 for 25c. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

A Few Words to Young Oologists.

BY CHARLES R. MORTON.

As the collecting season is near at hand, a few words to the young collectors would not, I think be out of place. Of course you have already bought your field outfit? No! Then do so at once. You have also read up during the past winter all about the birds that breed in your vicinity, and have made a list of those known to occur and also a separate list of the rare ones, or those likely to occur? No, again!!! What have you been doing all these long long winter evenings? You have lost time that you can never make up, but must go through the world just so far behind where you might have been. Now in the first place, purchase a canvas or russia leather wallet, with at least four drills, one embryo hook, one embryo scissors and blowpipe: these will all go in the wallet and do not cost much. Now your collecting box and you have your field kit. The box is made as you think best, of thin wood with graded partitions, or better still make a drawing of your box and have the nearest tin-smith make you one, which he will do for a small sum. It should be a double box with hinges.

Always blow your eggs in the field as they are less likely to break, and in packing, be sure that no two eggs touch each other, but wrap up each in cotton batting and see that they lay snugly in the box. Never be careless with the most common eggs as it is not necessary to rob two nests when one will answer your purpose. Never take more than you need, certainly you will need a few sets to exchange, but there is no necessity of having so many duplicates occupying so much valuable room in your cabinet, unless you are a scientist and want a series of sets of the same species. But, as you do not intend following oology for a livelihood you should not take any more than such a collection actually needs. It is well enough for beginners to collect in pairs and when you have advanced far enough to be certain that it is a lifelong hobby, then always collect in sets. Do not be "hogfish," but if you obtain more than you need of a rare species, find out if science does not need your odd set, write to some scientist, stating what you have and he will no doubt make you an offer, (enclose a stamp always). If you need the money to buy works on ornithology or oology, sell it to him, but if you are well enough off, give it to him and you will receive due appreciation for your offering to science.

Always carry your note book in the field and make long notes of the species taken; sit still and watch the actions of your birds, both before and after taking the eggs; take a complete description of nest, of what composed, where placed, distance from ground, position in tree, bush or on the ground; dimensions and in fact don't forget to jot down everything you see and your set is worth double its value to you and any professional ornithologist. When you get home, take out your large book (I hope you have one), in which you copy your field notes, you will be surprised to find that you remember other little things which you was in too much of a hurry (?) to put down before, when you ought to, however they go down now. This is what I call my ledger and my notes are always written twice. This also helps you remember what you have seen and you can talk upon the subject without recourse to your note book. If you note some peculiarity or trait of character in a species which is new, do not keep it to yourself but drop a line, stating the fact, to some paper or magazine devoted to the science. Don't be a miser and hoard up your knowledge but give it to the world.

Always buy the best of tools. They pay better in the end, and don't patronize the dealers who sell poorly-made and worthless ones at the same price at which you can obtain the best. Any collector will be pleased to give you information on this subject. Now always use the proper sized shot and do not use too heavy a gun. No. 12 and 13 shot is the thing for small birds and No. 8 for hawks is just right. A 20 gauge breech-loading gun is the best. Note the effect of certain charges upon your birds at different distances and act accordingly. Don't blow a poor bird to pieces that you may be sure of your identification, when you can do it right. Learn to make skins and if you cannot make up a skin, don't collect eggs.

Rare Coins.

Probably nearly every one in the United States knows that there are many coins in circulation that are worth much more than their face value, but they wouldn't know them if they should meet them in the middle of the street. We have issued a Premium Coin List, containing 94 illustrations, and giving our buying prices for every U. S. coin worth over face value. Every one who handles money should possess a copy. Price, 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents, post free. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

DÆDALIA.
CONDUCTED BY—MOONSHINE.

Contributions are at all times desired for this department. All communications to command attention should be written on one side of the paper. Puzzles sent for insertion should be written on separate sheets of note paper.

Puzzle Editor, CURIOSITY WORLD,
71 PENN ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

NEW PUZZLES NO. 1.

1. TRANSPPOSITION.
A FOLLY LOADS the air:
Beware, young man, take care:
Don't kick that hat
You're looking at
With such an eager stare:
For underneath that mild chapman,
That mildly lifts its crown uncouth,
A mighty bowlder lieth low,
In wait for toe of venturesome youth:
Then yonder boy
Will shout for joy,
The while you tear your hair:
And wildly whoop,
"You nincompoop!"
A FOLLY LOADS the air.
Binghamton, N. Y. "Pygmalion."

2. PENTAGON.
1. A letter. 2. Parents. 3. Skin tumors. 4. A Village of Hungary. 5. Expressed by an allegorical representation. 6. A cone. 7. Salts. (obs) 8. Still. 9. Girdles. (rare) "Doc Jr."
Jocia Falls, Joca.

3. DOUBLE LETTER ENIGMA.
In "Musical Strains," which often pains
The weary tramp passing by:
In "Bachelor's Ruse," which he doth lose
When he falls in a marriage tie:
In "Traders' Signs" of various kinds
In which they often vie.
I sit and watch the *Lustling Prime*,
And let my fancies rove:
The *Complete* in all its splendors fine,
An emblem of God's love.
Norristown, Pa. "Junior R."

4. PENTAGON.
1. A letter. 2. A small coin. 3. Cheese scoops. 4. Enclosed in a dock. 5. Stands opposed. 6. A house for habitation held of another. (Old English Law) 7. A blow. (Colloq) 8. Hurtest. (obs) 9. Quicksands. (rare) "Charlie Davis."
Baltimore, Md.

5. CHARADE.
All rangles one the bruised breast,
And fills the bursting heart with gall:
A chilling weight like three doth rest
On him who's writhing under it.
Then, friend, be true! Let not your tongue
Say aught unkind of friend or foe;
His acts may be constrained among
Conditions you can never know. "Lew Ward."
Waterford, Wis.

6. PENTAGON.
1. A letter. 2. To smell. 3. One who defies. 4. Words. 5. An instrument for measuring time. 6. Adapted to destroy. 7. Retroceded. 8. Rigid. 9. Mottoes. (obs) "Cohannet."
Taverton, Mass.

—Answers and Solvers in No. 3.—

CONFAB.

In coming before the readers of the CURIOSITY WORLD as Puzzle Editor, we would say that it is our intention to make this Department rank with the best, with the aid of those interested in this work. Our subscription price is small, 25 cents a year, and we hope that all those who receive a copy of this issue will favor us with a subscription and puzzleistic contributions too. Thanking those who have favored us with "cons" we remain Fraternally,
"MOONSHINE."

An Anecdote of Grant.

Miss Hulda Bond, of Brooklyn, is an autograph collector of more than ordinary pertinacity. The manner in which she secured Gen. Grant's is interesting.

The general was at the time sick with the disease which resulted in his death but, nothing daunted, Miss Bond called at his residence, sent in her card and obtained an interview with the general's wife.

Miss Bond impressed Mrs. Grant so favorably that when she brought out her album and said, "Do you think the general would add his name to my collection?" The latter replied that she would see, and went up stairs. On returning, Mrs. Grant said, "I told the general of your pleasant call, and he took the album, and glancing over it, read the few lines written by a little boy 5 years old," as follows:

"And me too, wish in your album to appear,
And do even my funny criers, cousin dear,
For I am only 5 years old and in skirts as yet,
But when I'm 6 my first pants I am to get;
And then I'll be a big man, I'm sure,
And write as nice as I see Grover Cleveland's signature."
U. S. BOND.

And after reading them he called for a pen and wrote after the boys signature: "And U. S. Grant." "The situation was so humorous" added Mrs. Grant, "that the general burst into a hearty laugh for the first time in weeks."—Coney Island Journal.

AUTOGRAPHS.

D. R. Alward, of Auburn, N. Y., formerly an extensive traveller, and for some years in the diplomatic service of the United States, proposes to sell his extensive collection of American and Foreign Autograph Letters, State Papers, Interesting Manuscripts and Historical Documents, mostly accompanied with choice Portraits. The collection is rich in Presidents, Signers of the Declaration, Statesmen of the Revolutionary period, American Literati, Foreign Potentates, including the lines of Bourbon and Orleans down from Anthony de Bourbon and the Hapsburgs from Maximilian I., born 1459, to Francis II, who died in 1835. Also, Goethe, Schiller, Humboldt, and most German authors. Very complete in English authors and authoresses. Very Rich in French Authors, artists, statesmen etc. Descriptive catalogue of 630 lots sent post free on receipt of 10 cents. Correspondence solicited.

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The Minerals of New Hampshire.

BY E. A. PHILBRICK.

To the collector of minerals New Hampshire probably presents a greater variety to choose from than any other state in the Union. Although almost entirely lacking in fossils and those calcareous minerals, whose crystallizations add so much beauty to mineralogical collections, yet many valuable "specimens," worthy of a place in the finest cabinet, may be obtained. In an article of this kind, it would be impossible to mention all the varieties and their locations, so we give the ones most commonly found and the locality where they may be obtained the most plentiful.

GRANITE, as is well known, is the prevailing rock, hence the name "The Granite State." This, with its brothers, Sienite and Gneiss, which form its mountains, is with the exception of the Azoic Laurentian hills, the most ancient surface upon the continent. The quarries at Concord, Rumney, Marlboro', Fitzwilliam and Troy are the most valuable, although there are many others. The granite is of a superior quality and has been employed in the construction of many of the finest buildings in the country.

STEATITE, or as it is commonly called, soapstone, is quarried in three places in the state; Canterbury, Orford and Frankestown. The quarry at the latter place has been worked nearly a hundred years and is the most valuable one in the United States.

MICA is probably the most profitable mineral mined in the state. The most valuable deposit is found in Grafton, there being several which annually produce many thousand pounds. It is also quite common in various other places and new mines are being opened every year.

LIMESTONE is only found in a very few localities in the Connecticut Valley.

FELDSPAR, one of the component parts of granite, is found in semi-crystals in connection with mica. The best specimens come from Grafton, Alstead, and Manchester. Albite is found in Grafton and Acworth and the pink or flesh-colored variety at Manchester.

COAL in New Hampshire is not a decided success. A substance somewhat resembling it has been found in Carroll county, near the base of Ossipee mountain. What this is I will not undertake to say, as far better geologists than myself have been stuck, although some pronounce it imperfectly-formed coal. When heated it somewhat resembles gutta percha and may be moulded into into almost any form. The bed was pretty thoroughly examined by Boston parties in rather a secret way last year and a considerable quantity taken away with them. To the inquiring multitude they replied that they intended using it for adulterating rubber in the manufacture of boots and shoes, but I have never been able to learn the actual result of the visit.

GRAPHITE is quite common in Campton, Antrim, Nelson, Goshen and on Timber Island in Lake Winnepesaukee.

BERYL is found principally in connection with mica; some elegant specimens having been obtained from the mines at Grafton. Some good ones may also be found in Gilford, upon the shore of Winnepesaukee, though not without considerable blasting.

QUARTZ crystals are obtainable in nearly every locality in the state in a greater or less degree of perfection. This may also be said of Fused and various other members of the quartz family.

GARNETS are abundant in Warren, Lisbon, Springfield and Hanover. Some of the Warren garnets are very rare, being of the cinnamon variety.

TREMOLITE is abundant in Warren.

TOURMALINE crystals are found imbedded in milky quartz in Warren, Piermont, Springfield and Orford.

GOLD was first discovered in Plainfield soon after the California gold fever of '49 and great excitement attended it. A new Ophir was about to be thrown open to the world. In after years veins have been opened in Lebanon, Hanover, Lyman, Lisbon, Landaff and numerous other localities, but owing to the igneous formation of the rocks containing it, as is the case with the other N. H. metals, it is not found in quantities to pay for working. The mines of Lyman and Lisbon have been worked to some extent and though a large quantity of modern machinery has been put in, yet at present the works are standing idle.

SILVER is found in Madison, Shelburne, Bristol, Meredith, Laconia and various other localities. It is usually found in the shape of argentiferous galena and although some very fine specimens have been obtained, it has never been mined to any extent.

ZINC, both sulphuret and oxide is found in connection with silver as is also Galena, and Copper in the form of sulphurets.

TIN. For many years the only place in the new world where tin was found was

at Ore Hill in Jackson. Although it has been found in considerable quantities, several thousand dollars have been expended with no favorable return and at present the mine is not worked.

MAGANESE in the form of black oxide is found in Hinsdale, Gilmanston, Littleton, and Winchester.

IRON may be found almost everywhere in the state but is richest in Bartlett, Lisbon and Tamworth. The Bartlett mine will probably some day be developed and made to pay handsomely. A quantity of the ore was shipped to England a few years ago and pronounced of the finest quality, especially for the manufacture of steel. Work began at the Lisbon mine in 1805 and continued for years, the product being equal to the best Swedish iron. The smelting works were located at Franconia village, nearly four miles from the mine. About twenty years ago work ceased and the buildings fell into decay. They became an eyesore to the good people of the village and on the night of July 3rd, 1883, the owner, with the assistance of numerous small boys, applied a torch to the old landmark and the anniversary of the birth of Liberty was ushered in with a bonfire which lighted up the grand old mountains for miles. The granite smelting furnace still stands, like the battlements of some ancient ruined castle, keeping guard over the smiling little valley below.

Giant Birds of New Zealand.

BY HORATIO HALE.

The discovery of the Dinornis by the illustrious zoologist, Richard Owen, is famous as one of the most notable feats in the history of science. From a single imperfect bone, a femur broken at both ends he deduced the fact that an enormous bird of the Struthious order, but far exceeding the ostrich in size, formerly inhabited New Zealand. This discovery, published in 1839, aroused much interest and led to further inquiry. Four years later, Owen was able to show, from the comparison of many fragments of skeletons which had reached him, that there had been at least six species of these gigantic birds. With additional materials, in 1850, he had increased the number of species to eleven, classed in three genera, and varying in size from a kind no larger than the great bustard (or about five feet high) to one—the Dinornis giganteus—at least ten feet in height. Still later researches have shown that even this stature was in some instances surpassed and that birds must have existed in New Zealand whose height attained fourteen feet, or twice that of the largest ostrich.

When Owen's first paper on this subject was published, the only white residents in New Zealand were a few missionaries and traders. Since then it has become one of the most flourishing of British colonies, especially distinguished for the educated intelligence of its people. Several scientific associations exist among them, whose members pursue with zeal their researches into the natural history of their islands. These huge extinct birds were, of course, among the first subjects of investigation; and soon a decided and very remarkable difference of opinion appeared. It was known from the first that the native inhabitants were accustomed to speak of these birds under the designation of *moa*, the name that in the other islands of Polynesia, from the Navigator group to Hawaii, was applied to the common domestic fowl which was not known in New Zealand. The first inquirers, including Owen's missionary correspondents had assumed as a matter of course, that the Dinornis had existed in very recent times, and perhaps was not even yet extinct. But a class of skeptical investigators arose, who took a very different view. The leader of this school was Mr. (now Sir Julius) Haast, a distinguished geologist and naturalist, the author of a valuable work on the "Geology of the Provinces of Canterbury and Westland," and of many other treatises, in which, admitting the co-existence of man and the moas at a very remote period, answering to our prehistoric time—as man and the mammoth are known to have existed together in Europe—he denies that the present race of Maoris had ever known these great birds. In his view these creatures represented in New Zealand the gigantic quadrupeds which inhabited the northern Hemisphere during the Postpliocene or Quaternary period. If any of them survived that epoch, they had become extinct at an early day and long before the ancestors of the modern Maoris had found their way to New Zealand.

Mr. Haast's view had in itself a certain plausibility, and it was maintained by himself and his followers with much firmness against many objectors, who brought forward a strong array of facts on the opposite side. The controversy has at length drawn the attention of one of the most eminent of European zoologists, Professor de Quatrefages. In an elaborate and very interesting paper on "Moas and Moa-hunters," which has recently appeared, he sums up the controversy with judicial thoroughness, reviewing carefully all the published data from the time of Owen to the latest contribution to the "Transactions of the New Zealand Institute," and comes to the conclusion that the early inquirers were right, and that Mr. Haast's view, in the form in which he proposes it, cannot be sustained. Indeed, the mere facts themselves, as they are set forth in this admirably lucid exposition, are overwhelming in their force, while the scientific skill with which they are marshalled, and the wealth of illustration which enforces the conclusions, are such as might be expected from the accomplished author.

He shows that many eggs and fragments of eggs of the moas have been discovered; that many feathers belonging to different species of these birds and to various parts of the body have been gathered in different places; and that even portions of the skeleton have been found which had muscles, tendons and pieces of skin still adhering, with some feathers, all in a remarkable state of preservation. Nor were these preserved in ice, like the Siberian mammoth; they had simply been dried in the sand, and the bones had not been in the slightest degree mineralized. Further, the traditions or the natives about these birds are perfectly clear. They describe their size, their shape, their habits and the manner in which they were hunted. The native proverbs refer to them. It was the habit of the male and female of these birds to go constantly together, and the Maoris speak of fighting "two against two, like the moas." They had a particular kind of obsidian knife, which they used in cutting up these birds at their feasts. The prayers or incantations which they were accustomed to recite before setting out on a moa-hunt are still remembered. Such a hunt was a serious undertaking, for the monstrous game could crush a man with one blow of the foot. The very paths which were made by the birds through the mountain thickets, and beside which the hunters were accustomed to lie in wait for them, can still be plainly traced. Furthermore, Mr. J. W. Hamilton published, in 1875, in the "Transactions of the New Zealand Institute," his notes of a conversation held in 1844 with an aged Maori, who, as he remembered Cook, must have been then more than seventy-five years old. He had seen a moa, and described it with all the minute precision of personal knowledge. Finally, if these statements should be questioned, we have the decisive fact that the remains of the great feasts of the natives, which have been found in several places, show the bones of the moa mingled with those of the native dog. Now, the New Zealand dog is the Polynesian variety, used only for food; and the traditions of the natives are quite clear as to the fact that their ancestors, when they came to the country some four or five centuries ago, brought the dog with them.

M. de Quatrefages shows, however, that Mr. Haast's opinions have some foundation, though not precisely in the sense intended by him. Of the eleven species of moa, one, and this the largest of all, the Dinornis giganteus, seems to have been extinct before the advent of the Maoris. At least this is the inference which may be drawn from the fact that none of the bones of this species have ever been found among the remains of their feasts. Of the next in size, the Dinornis robustus, which was but slightly less in stature, the remains have only once been found in this position; and those of the huge Palapteryx ingens have been thus discovered in only three instances. It would seem, therefore, that the largest of these creatures were either extinct or dying out when man appeared on the scene; but this appearance, it must be remembered, was a very recent event. The result is, that Mr. Haast's view can only be sustained by reforming his geologic chronology, or rather nomenclature—at least for New Zealand—and bringing the Post-pliocene era down to our own times. And this conclusion suggests a consideration of much larger import. If so good a geologist as Mr. Haast has been at fault in regard to the antiquity of the moa, may not other able geologists, who have supposed that the mammoth, the cave bear and other extinct animals—the contemporaries of the Cro-Magnon artists who depicted them with such life-like exactness—died out at a period long prior to the historic era, be equally mistaken? There seems no more reason for doubting that the last surviving Elephas primigenius may have been killed by some bold hunters of the Cro-Magnon race, in the time of one of the early Pharaohs, than there is for questioning the fact that the last Dinornis was killed by the Maori hunters in the reign of George III.—*Popular Science Monthly*.

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Exchange Notices not exceeding twenty-four words will be inserted for subscribers only, free of charge. Over 24 words, one cent per word.

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United States cents from 1795 up for coins or numismatic books. C. T. Tatman, 93 Piedmont St., Worcester, Mass.

Foreign stamps to exchange; References given and required. W. B. Hale, Williamsville, Mass.

Bird's eggs to exchange for others. Send list of duplicates and wants. Specimens obtained for Ornithological and Oological Societies at reasonable rates. L. O. Pindar, Hickman, Ky.

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Oology: Past and Present.

BY LEGRAND T. MEYER.

Every science was immature at its birth and gradually became more complete with its age. Oology is not an exception. Egg collectors of twenty years ago were very numerous and their prime object (and many of the present have the same one) was to obtain the largest collection of showy specimens. To do this they often resorted to stratagem. Some used their native talent and decorated common eggs, like the dove's, or taking "rooster" eggs, palmed them off as rare specimens.

Their stock increased more rapidly than at present; for instance the Song Sparrow's nest, if found on the ground, was a Ground Sparrow; if found in a tree, a Tree Sparrow; and if in a field, a Field Sparrow, of course. On Saturdays and often Sundays, three or four would-be scientists, each with a cigar box full of sawdust, would start on their trips. If a nest was found their usual exclamations were: "Give me one?" "What is it?" and "You promised to give one of every kind you found?" The result would be a large number of second-class collections. The days of the drill and blow-pipe had not arrived. Unidentified and with no data, what few survived the ordeal of being blown through two holes, were strung on a string and hung around some picture, only to be cracked by every gust of wind that came into the room. Now, things have changed, for we live in a progressive age. The egg fiends (?) of the past are no longer found unless it be an "infant terrible," but in their places have stepped in the Oologists of today. Now, when a collector starts out, he is armed with a gun and has a notebook and a box partitioned off for specimens; when he discovers a nest of eggs he does not recognize, he watches for the bird and shoots her. An unidentified egg has no scientific or commercial value. When the day's trip is ended he blows the contents of the eggs through a neatly drilled hole, by means of a blow pipe. If the embryo is developed, he drills a larger hole and by means of an embryo hook, easily made by a pin in the form of a small hook, he pulls it out piece by piece, thereby saving the egg which was invariably broken in the olden times. He then numbers his sets, fills out the data blanks and puts them in trays and then into his cabinet.

It is well to take several duplicate sets for exchanging, owing to the geographical distribution of birds, but no one will encourage the "egg hog" who robs and plunders all nests he finds under the flimsy guise of science. It is a well known fact that Oology does not decrease the feathered tribe, for nine times out of ten the birds build another nest when robbed of the first. To test this we have numerous examples. I know of one collector who ascertained by taking her eggs, that a Song Sparrow laid five sets. Her patience was rewarded by his leaving the fifth set. If our birds are becoming scarcer it is owing to Dame Fashion's signing the death warrants of millions of our birds every year. It is therefore the duty of every Oologist to do all in his power to cause the wholesale slaughter of innocents to cease.

The World Stamp Album.

The World Stamp Album contains 84 pages, size 6x8 1-2 inches, each page ruled to hold 30 stamps, making a total space for 2,520 stamps. It is printed on heavy tinted book paper, and is a fine album for any collector having less than 2,000 varieties. Price, post free, 28 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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This book, by the well-known author, H. J. Miron, contains much valuable information for both dealer and collector, and is having a very large sale. Every Philatelist should have a copy, and by a careful perusal of its contents he would know many things about the science of Philately that he never knew before. Price, post free, 10 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

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The majority of stamp collectors, especially beginners, prefer to invest what money they can in stamps, rather than in an album. We have just issued a new album, called the "Gem," which for neatness and cheapness is not beat in this country. It is printed on 50 lb., tinted, machine finished paper, and contains space for 600 stamps. Size, 6x8 inches. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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The Coins of the United States.

BY H. J. MIRON.

COPPER.

HALF CENTS.

Half cents were first issued in 1793, unlike the cents of that date and there is only one type, although several dies were used. On the obverse the head of Liber-



ty faces to the observer's left with a pole surmounted by a Liberty cap over the right shoulder. Above "Liberty;" below, the date. In the centre of the reverse, in two lines are the words "Half Cent" surrounded by two half wreaths fastened at the bottom with a ribbon. Legend: "United States of America." At the bottom below the wreath "1-200." The edges are lettered, "Two hundred for a dollar." The weight was 132 grains. The design



of the half cent of 1794 is precisely like the cent of that date, the size, words and figures being changed to represent the two-hundredth instead of hundredth part of a dollar. The edge is lettered like the one of 1793. In the latter part of the year 1795, the planchets were made thinner and the lettering on the edge was omitted, both varieties being coined that year. There are several varieties of the thin planchet, one which has no Liberty pole for the cap and another has a comma between the 1 and 7 of the date, thus; "1,795." The half cent of 1796 is the rarest of the series and a fine specimen would sell readily for \$25 to \$50. There is a variety of the 1797 half cent having a line between the first figure (1) of the date and the head, making it look like the repetition of the numeral. Another rare variety of this date has the edges lettered "two hundred for a dollar," like those of 1793-94.

No half cents were coined in 1798 or '99 but they were issued in 1800 and corresponded in design with the cent of that date.



None were coined in 1801. They again appeared in 1802, the obverse die being altered from that of 1800. This date is quite rare and is worth from \$5 to \$25 according to condition. There were no further changes or omissions until 1809 when



the design was changed to the turban head to correspond with the cent of the same date. There is a variety of 1808 struck from an altered die of 1807.

No half cents were coined from 1812 to 1824 inclusive. They again made their appearance in 1825, and were of the same design as those of 1809-11. None were coined in 1827. They again appeared in 1828, one variety having 12 instead of 13 stars. Their coinage was discontinued during 1830 but resumed in 1831 and continued until 1836 when their coinage was again suspended. Those of 1831 and '36 are quite rare. The coinage was resumed in 1840, but the design was changed from the turban head to the exact counterpart of the cent of that date. Those coined from 1840 to 1848 inclusive, and the issue of 1849 with small date are very rare and bring about \$10 each if in good condition. They were afterwards restruck at the mint, with the reverse of the half cent of 1856, but the reissues are about as rare



and valuable as the originals. In 1849

the large dates made their appearance. There were no further changes or omissions until 1857, when their coinage was discontinued. The coinage of 1852 was very limited, consequently those of that date are rare.

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BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

III. DENMARK.

Denmark, with an area of 14,553 square miles and a population of 2,100,000 is a constitutional kingdom, occupying an almost insular position between the North Sea and the Baltic. The constitutional charter of 1849 vests the legislative power in the Rigsdag consisting of a Folkething with 102 members and a Landsting of 66 members. The Folkething are elected by universal suffrage, for a term of three years, and the Landsting for eight yearly electoral districts with the exception of 12 members who are nominated for life by the King. The executive power is vested in the King and Ministers of Finance, Interior, Justice, Worship and Public Instruction, Foreign Affairs and Minister of War and Marine. The army which is recruited by conscription consists of 40,000 men, with a reserve of 15,000. The navy consists of 33 steam with 230 guns and 29 sail vessels. The exports which are chiefly grain and provisions amount to about \$60,000,000 per year. There are about 1300 miles of railway and 3000 miles of telegraph wires. In 1883 the postal system transmitted 29,572,652 letters and 33,990,037 newspapers. Education is highly developed by the compulsory system.

Postage stamps were first introduced into Denmark in 1851. The stamp was a



2 rigsbank skilling, blue, with value on white disk, surrounded by a band bearing the inscription "Frimærke K. G. L. Post" with a crown above and a posthorn below. Ornamented angles of ornate ground. Watermark, a crown. The stamps are square and unperforated. rigsbank skillings, pale brown and dark brown were also issued in 1851 and were of the following design: Crossed sword and sceptre, with crown above, surrounded by a wreath in a square frame inscribed "Kongeligt Post Frimærke, Fire. R.B.S." Ground of an-



gles dotted, with a posthorn in each of the four corners. Watermark, a crown. Unperforated.

The design of the 1853-57 issue is similar to the 4 r. b. sk. of 1851. Inscription "K.G.L. Post" at the top and on the left.



"F.R.M." on the the right. Dotted ground, unperforated.

The values are:

- 1854, 2 skil. blue.
- 1853, 4 " brown.
- 1857, 8 " green.
- " 16 " lilac.

In 1863 stamps of the same design, colors and values were issued perforated.

In 1858 unperforated stamps of similar design with lined ground were issued as follows:

- 4 skil. brown.
- 8 " green.

In 1864 these values were issued with some design and in the same colors, but perforated.

There were issued in 1864 two varieties



unperforated, with same design in oval and "K.G.L. Post, F.R.M." in a curved line and value below, numerals of value in each corner. The values were:

- 1863 unperforated, 2 skil. blue.
- " " 4 " red.

Stamps of the same design, perforated were issued as follows:

- 1865 2 sk. blue.
- 1864 3 " lilac.
- 1864 4 " red.
- 1868 8 " stone.
- 1864 16 " sage-green.

An altogether new design appeared in 1870-71. The numerals of value are on solid circular disk supported by branches, a crown above and posthorn below, surrounded by an oval band inscribed at the top "Danmark" and below, "Postfrim" and value. Ornamented spandrels. Perforated.

- 1870 2 sk. blue and gray.
- " 3 " lilac " "
- " 4 " carmine " "
- 1871 8 " brown " "
- 1870 16 " green " "
- " 48 " violet " brown.

The following stamps of the same design, perforated were issued 1874-79.

- 1874 3 ore, gray and slate.
- " 4 " blue " "
- 1879 5 " carmine " "
- 1874 8 " " " "
- " 12 " lilac and " "
- " 16 " brown " "
- 1875 20 " red " "
- 1874 25 " green " "
- " 50 " violet " "
- 1877 100 " orange " "

In 1882 another new design appeared with arms of Denmark in the centre.



"Danmark" in a semi-circle above and "Postfrim" and value in a semi-circle below, with numerals of value at each side in large type on white disk and smaller numerals on white disk in each corner. Perforated.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

In 1871 a set of official stamps of the



following design and values were issued: Arms of Denmark on shield, with crown above, in an oval. "Tjeneste" on the left, "Post" at the top, "Frimærke" on the right, value at the bottom. Ornamented corners, perforated.

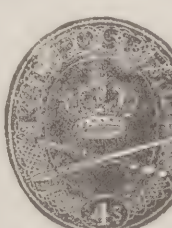
- 1871 2 sk. blue.
- " 1 " rose.
- " 16 " green.

A new set bearing the same design but with new denomination of value appeared in 1874, perforated.

- 1874, 3 ore violet.
- " 4 " blue.
- " 8 " rose.
- " 32 " green.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

Stamped envelopes made their first appearance in 1865. There is an embossed crown, sword and sceptre on solid disk, in a reticulated oval frame bearing "K.G.L., Post, F.R.M.," above and the



letter "s" in transverse oval at the bottom of the stamp. The watermark is a crown on the flap of the envelope.

- 1865, 2 sk. blue.
- " 4 " rose.

The same design without s after numerals of value:

- 1869 2 sk. blue.
- " 4 " rose.
- 1874 4 ore blue.
- " 8 " rose.

NEWSPAPER BANDS.

Newspaper bands first appeared in 1870 and are of the same design as the adhesive stamps of that date. Following are the values and date of issue:

- 1870, 2 sk. blue.
- 1874, 4 ore blue.
- 1882, 5 " green.

Philatelists' Note Book.

BY G. P. C.

A note book is one of the aids to the study of stamps which should be in the hands of every collector.

A good book for the purpose can be obtained of any stationer for fifteen or twenty

cents. Having obtained your book, the next thing to do is to find your notes. These will soon come to you in large numbers; almost every philatelic paper will contain two or three paragraphs and occasionally a newspaper will contain one of interest, which could not easily be committed to memory but could in a short time be transferred to the pages of the book. In this manner you will have in a few months a collection of facts which will be of value to you. Another good plan is to have a scrap book in which to place cuttings from the papers, but I think the note book is to be preferred as most of us do not care to cut our papers to obtain a short note, while we may perhaps injure a fine article which is printed on the other side of the paper.

And right here let me say to all philatelists, preserve your papers and complete your files as soon as possible, as the demand for old copies is fast growing and many philatelists are making collections of stamp papers which in future years will be of value to philately.

In closing this somewhat rambling discourse, I will give a few notes copied from the first two pages of my note book.

1. "The postal card was invented in 1869 by Dr. Emanuel Hermann of Vienna. They were first used in Austria October 1, 1869. They were issued in Hungary Nov. 1st of the same year, and in Germany July 1st, 1870. They were first used in the United States May 1st, 1873."

2. "The first Unpaid Letter Stamps were issued and used in France in 1859. Italy, Bavaria and Turkey followed in 1863. Six other countries used them before the United States issued them in 1870."

3. "The first issue of Bergedorf stamps appeared in November 1861 and were in use but eleven days. The rare and the common stamps of this country are all from the same dies."

Of course the notes could be lengthened as new facts were discovered, so that in a short time the owner would have a really valuable reference book.

The above paragraphs will give some idea of what I mean by the note book and if each reader of this article would prepare a note book, he would not in after years regret that he had spent a few of his leisure hours in this occupation.

Confederate Money.

Since the downfall of the Southern Confederacy Confederate money has been growing more valuable each year, and any one desiring a few specimens should procure them at once. We have a small stock of Confederate bills, which we are selling at 10 cents each, or three varieties for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Hints on Insect Collecting.

There is no branch of Natural History work that offers more attractions to the student than insect collecting. This book contains much valuable information as to the outfit necessary for collecting, the manner of preparing and mounting insects, the preparation of a cabinet, etc., and every collector should possess a copy. The book is recommended by the Agassiz Association and is mentioned in their hand book. Price, 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

AUTOGRAPHS.

D. R. Alward, of Auburn, N. Y., formerly an extensive traveller, and for some years in the diplomatic service of the United States, proposes to sell his extensive collection of American and Foreign Autograph Letters, State Papers, Interesting Manuscripts and Historical Documents, mostly accompanied with choice Portraits. The collection is rich in Presidents, Signers of the Declaration, Statesmen of the Revolutionary period, American Literati, Foreign Potentates, including the lines of Bourbon and Orleans down from Anthony de Bourbon and the Hapsburgs from Maximilian I., born 1459, to Francis II, who died in 1835. Also, Goethe, Schiller, Humboldt, and most German authors. Very complete in English authors and authoresses. Very Rich in French Authors, artists, statesmen etc. Descriptive catalogue of 630 lots sent post free on receipt of 10 cents. Correspondence solicited.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

United States and Canada, 25c
Foreign Countries, 37c

ADVERTISING RATES:

10 cents per line for one insertion. 30 cents per line for four insertions. \$1 per inch for one insertion. \$3 per inch for four insertions.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H., as Second Class Matter.

MAY, 1887.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

—OF THE—

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The next meeting of the New England Philatelic Union will be held at Knight's of Honor Hall, 730 Washington St., Boston, Mass., Saturday, May 21, at 2 p. m. It is hoped there will be a full attendance as business of importance will come before the meeting. Let every member be present, and if possible bring a brother Philatelist to join the Union.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, Sec.

Subscribe for the WORLD.

Wm. C. Stone and Howard S. Williams of Springfield, Mass., have formed a Co-partnership for the purpose of carrying on the stamp business.

Smith & Handford of New York are about to publish the "New York State Stamp Collectors' Directory," which will contain the addresses of about 500 collectors in that state.

We are willing to give every Curiosity Collector a sample copy of this paper, and only one. We keep a record of every sample copy sent out, and if you want to see us again, you must subscribe.

For only 25 cents we will send post free to any address, one copy each of the "Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and Sell." Every collector should own a set of these books, and now is the time to buy them.

We have received a surprise party in the shape of the enlarged Philatelic Tribune. From the amount of blowing the publisher indulged in we expected to see a fine Philatelic paper. It is what is called a "patent inside" and all the fault we find with it is that it is not all patent matter.

We have received a copy of "Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Friends." It contains the names of over 200 Philatelic dead-beats and a copy should be in the hands of every collector. It is well gotten up and is sold for only 10 cents. Address George P. Coffin, Box 220, Freeport, Me.

"I am more than pleased with the CURIOSITY WORLD as an advertising medium. Our exchange notice has brought us in over forty answers in less than ten days, from all parts of the U. S., and Canada, and still they are coming." Frank M. Davis, 404 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis.

"The CURIOSITY WORLD, devoted to Stamps, Coins and Curiosities is a new publication, issued by John M. Hubbard, and dated at Lake Village. The paper makes a neat appearance, is well filled with matter interesting to the curiosity world, and is sure to be a success as long as 'John' stands at the helm."—*Laconia (N. H.) Democrat*.

We are sorry Mr. E. B. Hanes, the Exchange superintendent of the American Philatelic Association has resigned. He is just the man for the place, is strictly honest, is a hard worker and attends to his business promptly. Of his successor, Mr. Henry Coltz, we know but little, but hope he may do as well and be as popular in the future, as Mr. Hanes has been in the past.

Mr. Lyman H. Low, of 853 Broadway, New York, will hold his 15th Auction Sale of Coins, Medals and Numismatic Books, Monday, May 9. The catalogue contains 675 lots and we notice some very fine and rare coins mentioned. All Numismatists who have not received a copy should send for one immediately as they will be very likely to find something there that they want.

Mason & Co., will hold their fourth Boston Coin Sale on Tuesday afternoon, May 17. The collection consists of the Atkins Coin collection and various invoices of medals, books, cabinets, rare old china, gold, silver, copper and nickel coins, postal and fractional currency, etc. 513 lots. Send for a copy of the catalogue to Mason & Co., 235 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

The Chalmers Philatelic Association is a new one lately organized at Northboro Mass.

The *Southern Collector* is a new one, published by Thos. R. Raines, of Hickory, Miss.

The *Quaker City Philatelist* has advanced their subscription price to 25 cents per year.

The CURIOSITY WORLD contains more real Philatelic literature than many so called stamp papers.—[Figaro.]

The *Cumberland Collector* is no more. It was published just one year and has turned over its subscription list to the *Stamp*.

Mr. Henry Coltz, Box 3489, New York City has been appointed Exchange Superintendent of the American Philatelic Association, vice E. B. Hanes, resigned.

We have received a copy of the "American Philatelic Press Directory," published by George H. Richmond, 5 Beekman St., New York. It contains 44 pages and cover and is nicely printed and well gotten up. Price, 25 cents.

"Rare American Coins, their Description and past and Present Fictitious Values" is the title of a new book by E. Locke Mason. It contains nearly fifty illustrations and is very interesting and instructive. Price, 25 cents. Address this office.

We have just issued the "Stamp Collectors of the World," a 20 page book with heavy covers, each page being 7 inches long and 2 columns wide. It is printed on the same kind of paper as the WORLD and contains the addresses of over 1,000 bona fide Stamp Collectors in all parts of the world. Every collector should own a copy. Price, post free, 10 cents.

Mr. E. D. Kline, librarian of the American Philatelic Association was one of the first to agitate a change in the official organ. He says: "we can get lots of things by asking, and anything that is not worth asking for is not worth having." The Pomroy society is red hot for a change, and their influence had much to do with placing the matter before the Association for their action.

"It affords us pleasure to inform you that we have had very satisfactory results from our advertisement in the CURIOSITY WORLD. We have never before through similar channels had equal returns. We consider it indicative of your energy and business enterprise in securing so large a per centage of live collectors." Lyman H. Low & Co., Numismatists, 853 Broadway, New York.

The second edition of Davis' "Egg Check List and Key to the Nests and Eggs of North American Birds" is a book of 184 pages with seven full page engravings and will delight the heart of every collector of Bird's Eggs. Nearly 800 species of birds are correctly named and numbered, and general descriptions of both birds and eggs are given. Price, Post free, \$1. Address this office.

Speaking about the official organ, the Philatelic Gazette says: "We hope some arrangements will be made which will satisfy the growlers and at the same time be to the advantage of the society. We have nothing to suggest except that the journal selected to be the official organ of the National Society be one which is devoted exclusively to Philately." We agree with you there, gentlemen.

L. H. Patterson, of Salem, Mass.,—formerly of Danvers—advertises to publish the "Golden Moments, the largest circulation of any youth's paper in the world." Patterson is a hard citizen, and one of the biggest swindlers the sun ever shone upon, and we have the documents to prove it. We published his record a few months ago and those who give him a severe letting alone will be the best off.

"In the March number of the CURIOSITY WORLD the article entitled 'Philately! A Science' by A. Palette, is brought to a close. The article has occupied a column or more in each of the last three issues of the paper and evinces a studious research and a love of Philately that is highly commendable in the author. Mr. Hubbard should re-publish it in pamphlet form; it would be a power for good."—[Western Philatelist.]

"Generally, ex-publishers of defunct stamp papers 'sneak away to hide their shame'. Not so with a certain Tucson, Arizona, ex-philatelic publisher. Not content with failing with his paper, he now writes a poem (?) in one of our leading journals, in which he complains of the irregularity of most stamp papers and mourns the loss of his subscription money. If this is not 'cheek,' what is it."—[Figaro.]

That's nothing. He has been owing us for advertising over a year, and a short time since he sent us an advertisement for the WORLD, with the request that we publish, and send bill. He also sent us what he called a "humorous" report of a meeting of the Tucson Philatelic Society, and got as mad as a hornet because we declined to publish his cheap trash. "Cheek" doesn't half express it.

It is said it takes a great deal of cheek to run a paper, successfully, and if that is all that is required, the publishers of *Plain Talk* will be at the top of the heap. The second day after we received notice from Secretary Bradt that the members of the A. P. A., would be allowed to vote for the paper they desired to have made the official organ, in case the American Philatelist was discontinued, we received a pathetic appeal from Messrs. Meyers & Van Schaack, in the shape of a circular, for our support. Among other things their circular mentions, is that they "are the only publisher of a philatelic paper so situated, financially, as to insure regular and uninterrupted issues." What is the matter with the Western Philatelist? It appears as regularly as *Plain Talk* or any other paper and is backed by as much capital, *Plain Talk's* statement to the contrary notwithstanding. C. H. Mekeel also gets the P. J. of A., out every month, without fail. The Philatelic Gazette don't seem to be bothered any by lack of capital and the Quaker City Philatelist, although not "incorporated under the laws of the State of New York," gets there just the same, capital or no capital. In the first place, *Plain Talk* is not a Philatelic paper and never was. It devotes much more space to general literature that the average philatelist does not care a continental about than it does to philately, and one of the publishers does not even belong to the Association. A Philatelic paper is one that is devoted exclusively to Philately, and *Plain Talk* does not fill the bill and will consequently get left.

At the time our last issue went to press we had no idea that so many members of the American Philatelic Association were desirous of having a change in the official organ. A vote of the members has been called for, to see if they wish the American Philatelist discontinued, and if so, which paper they desire to have made the official organ. There are four papers whose publishers are willing should serve the Association. These offers are as follows:

The Empire State Philatelist, Coin and Curiosity Collector will devote 8 pages for the use of the Association, or they will issue a separate paper and furnish the same to members, free of charge.

Plain Talk will devote as many pages for the use of the Association as the official editor may desire, only requiring that they should be paid 35 cents for each member of the Association.

The P. J. of America's offer is the same as the above with the exception that they want 50 cents for every member.

The Western Philatelist, will, for \$10 per month—the amount now paid the official editor—devote as much space as is required, edit all matter properly sent in and prepare it for publication, and furnish the paper free to all members until the number reaches 500.

If the members vote to discontinue the American Philatelist, one of the above papers will be the official organ, and it is for the members to say which one it shall be. We think but very few of the members will vote to accept the offers of either the E. S. P. & C. C. C., or *Plain Talk*. Should the former be selected, it would cost at least \$10 per month for salary and expenses of an official editor. The paper is devoted, as its title implies, to anything from a butterfly to an elephant, and the majority of the members object to it on that account. Neither is *Plain Talk* a Philatelic paper and if its offer is accepted it will cost in addition to the \$120 per year for official editor, 35 cents for each member, and reckoning the average membership at 500, it would make the modest little sum of \$295 per annum, all told. The Philatelic Journal of America is a Philatelic journal in every sense of the word and would make a good official organ, but it would be an expensive luxury. Reckoning the average membership at 500, it would cost \$250 per annum in addition to the expense of official editor, making a total of \$370 per year, which is considerable more than the American Philatelist costs, and if it was selected it would be jumping out of the frying pan into the fire.

The Western Philatelist is devoted exclusively to Philately, and is a first-class magazine in every respect, and the publishers have made a very liberal offer. For 500 members it would cost but \$120 per annum, which is \$170 cheaper than *Plain Talk's* offer for that number of members, \$250 less than what P. J. of A., the would cost and \$90 less than what the American Philatelist costs the Association at the present time. Mr. Bradt, the editor of the Western Philatelist is President of the Chicago Society and Secretary of the Association and his associates are members of both the Chicago and American Associations, and they would give an official organ of which we should all be proud, and according to the best of our knowledge and belief, the

Western Philatelist is preferable to either of the others; at least our vote says so, first, last and all the time.

It is hoped every member will vote immediately, if they have not already done so. It requires a two-thirds vote for the amendment to make it a law, and if 70 members vote against it or fail to vote, the amendment will be lost and the American Philatelist will continue to be published.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

Charlestown Philatelic Society. A meeting of the above society was held Apr. 18th, called at 7:05 P. M. Messrs. Klinch, Triest, Gruver and Luhn were present. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Mr. Faruk Cogswell, of Charlestown, S. C., was elected a member. A letter from Mr. Patrick Chalmers was read. The society is indebted to Mr. Chalmers for a set of the new stamps of Great Britain. Several matters of minor importance came before the Society. The following were received since last meeting: Sterling's Catalogue, Vodel's Catalogue, CURIOSITY WORLD, *Stamp Collectors' Figaro*, *Philatelic Fortnightly* and *Philatelic Monthly*. Adjourned at 8 o'clock P. M. Next meeting to be held May 2nd, at 7 P. M. G. J. LUNN, JR., Sec.

The first regular meeting in March of the Pomroy Philatelic Society was held on the evening of the seventh. The attendance was good.

The first business to come before the meeting was the resolutions adopted by the committee regarding the illustration of Messrs. Rechert and Bogart's book. These were passed in the shape of a petition asking that the book be allowed to be illustrated and a copy of the resolutions were ordered sent to Jos. Rechert.

Mr. Parker moved that Mr. Patrick Chalmers be elected an honorary member of the Pomroy Society. This was seconded and passed unanimously. An application for admission to the Society from Dr. M. Jungbluth, of Toledo, was read. A vote being taken, Dr. Jungbluth was declared elected a member of the Pomroy Society. The Secretary read a letter for H. C. Kendall, of Emmetsburgh, Io., a member of the American Association, asking to join the Pomroy Society. The majority holding that the fact of his being a member of the American Association proved him to be a philatelist of good standing and a vote being taken, the Secretary was instructed to inform him he was elected a member. Several other letters were read from members of the American Association, making inquiries regarding the Pomroy Society. Mr. Stebbins asked what the Society intended to do about the new set of English stamps. After much discussion it was decided to set aside in our albums a blank page and to arrange them thereon in a neat design. This page to be called the "Jubilee Page." The Secretary was instructed to purchase of the English Government through our English correspondent, fifteen full sets of these stamps, the members to buy them at their face value of the Secretary upon arrival. The Secretary was also ordered to open correspondence with the Mexican and other governments with a view to buying of them current sets of stamps.

The President (Bishop) read a letter from a gentleman in Holland and another from Belgium asking that they be elected corresponding members of the Pomroy Society. The Secretary was instructed to open correspondence with them.

The Pomroy Society now numbers seventeen members; all being advanced collectors. Six are members of the American Association and we hope to be well represented at the next convention. We are one year old next month and for so young a society are doing well and think and hope we have come to stay. One year ago we organized with three members and supposed we were the only three advanced collectors in the city, but by the use of the daily papers have succeeded in unearthing about twenty-five old collectors. Some of these we have bought out, but most of them have come into the Society. Old albums have been thrown aside and the latest International is now owned by nearly all. A uniform album is, we find, a great help in a meeting. We think another twelve months will put us on a level with the best in the land.

Toledo, O., Apr. 12. E. D. KLINE, Sec.



No 1 of the WORLD Packets of Foreign Stamps contains 110 varieties of stamps, (No U. S.) including Japan, Mexico, India, Brazil, Prince Edward Island, Jamaica, Hong Kong, Egypt, Canada Registered, Switzerland, Ausser Kurs, (unused,) Finland, etc. Price, post free, 27 cents, or with the WORLD three months on trial, 33 cents. J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

ANTIGUA.—The 1 1-2d. card now bears a stamp with the head in a circle.

BARBADOS.—The double 1 1-2d. card has been issued in lilac on buff. The three higher values of the new issue, which were announced a long time ago are now in general use. They are: 6p. brown; 1s. buff; 5s. bistre.

BOLIVIA.—We have four values of the new issue, viz: 1 centavo, lake; 2c. purple; 5c. blue; 10c. orange. They are the same as the 1871 issue with 11 stars, but rouletted.

BULGARIA.—The value of the 1 franc stamp has been changed to 1 leva.

COSTA RICA.—We have seen specimens of two values of a new series of official stamps and also two or three envelopes, but am not prepared as yet to give the complete list.

DUTCH INDIES. The 5 cent post card has been issued with a stamp of the new type and printed in green on white.

FAHNGKOTE.—1 2 and 1 anna envelopes are now in use and also 1-4 and 1-2 anna cards.

GIBRALTAR. Of the new stamps without surcharge we have seen 1s. brown; 1-2d. green, newspaper wrapper and 2d. red, registered envelope.

HONG KONG.—The 3 cent post card now comes brown on white.

LABUAN.—Specimens of the 10c. lately received were very dark brown and the 16c., gray.

PORTO RICO.—The post card is reported on buff, but we have not seen it.

WURTEMBERG.—The inscription on the single and double 10 pfennig cards is now "Deutschland—Allemagne—Wurtemberg."

Toledo, Ohio, April 23rd, 1887.

JOHN M. HUBBARD.

Dear Sir:—

I have read the article in your last number and can say that the members in this section fully agree with you.

We have done considerable talk regarding this matter and the association are now to allow us to vote on amendment and choice of papers. Editor Fraser gives \$28 per month as the expense of his paper. Several papers have offered to publish our reports &c. for \$10 per month and one has agreed to give his paper for nothing.

There is, however, nothing strange in this. A paper backed by the Association would pay by advertisements and so would the *American Philatelist* if he had been allowed to do as he pleased and not bound down by an arbitrary set of rules made by the officers over him. The reading matter in the *American Philatelist* was good enough. What it wanted was a cover, 8 or 10 pages of ads. and the allowing of unlimited circulation. The ideas of the Board regarding this paper has caused a great deal of discontent in the Association and bitter feeling toward Editor Fraser. We are now, however, going to try for a decent paper and will save from \$10 to \$15 dollars a month. As we are not exactly a Savings Bank and as the Association is growing I hardly see the use of saving anything.

There is one among us who has worked hard for us. One who has done more for the Association than many would have done; one who has worked and never complained and that man is our Sec'y S. B. Bradt. Now if we have been paying \$28 per month for the *American Philatelist* and can get a paper for \$10 or less, the opinion of the Pomroy Branch of the American Association is that the money saved should go to Sec'y Bradt, and I for one move that we follow up our first amendment by calling on our officers to pay Sec'y Bradt as far as possible for his services and as the Association grows so should his salary.

Six members from Toledo will gladly sign such a paper. Who will second me? E. D. KLINE.

U. S. STAMPS,

A New Priced Catalogue of U. S. and Confederate adhesive stamps, post free, 10 cents.

Exchange List of U. S. stamps, free on application.

Advanced Collectors.

Selections of desirable stamps sent on approval to responsible parties.

Bargains for collectors always on hand.

Price list of superior packets [25 cents to \$10.00] sent free.

Guatemala 1886, Provisionals, used, 5 varieties, 25c to 150c, on 1 peso red, 75 cents per set.

WHOLESALE.

New wholesale list will be sent free upon application to dealers only.

North, South Central American and West Indian stamps a specialty.

100 Mexican, fine assortment, \$1.00

100 South American, many kinds, .85

100 West Indian, well mixed, .75

100 Approval sheets, fine linen paper .35

Philatelic Journal of America,

The largest stamp collectors' journal published, in its third year of publication. Subscription, 50 cents per annum to U. S. and Canada. Foreign, 62 cents per annum.

Advertising rates on application

C. H. MEKEEL,
STAMP DEALER & PUBLISHER,
Room 71, Turner Building, ST. LOUIS, MO.

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

BY HOWARD K. SANDERSON.

PART IV.

[This article begun in our January number. Subscriptions may commence with that issue if desired.—Ed.]

Geo. Wythe is the *rarest* name among the Virginia delegation and in fact is about as hard a name to obtain as there is among the signers. It has been growing scarcer lately, any form of the name bringing a high price. He wrote his name very large, bringing his initial with a tremendous sweep around the whole name. An autograph letter of Mr. Wythe will soon be out of the question and collectors will have to content themselves with a document. A good specimen of the latter, simply signed, will bring \$25. He died in 1806, aged 81.

Carter Braxton was a planter of considerable means, leading an easy life on his spacious possessions at Newington, in the county of King and Queen, Virginia. In 1775 Mr. Peyton Randolph, President of Congress, died and Mr. Braxton was appointed his successor. His name is signed plainly to the Declaration. His autograph is not rare, being worth six or seven dollars in the form of a letter. He wrote a simple, neat hand with nothing to distinguish it.

Benjamin Harrison was from an old Virginia family and was an important man in Revolutionary days. He was elected a member of the Continental Congress in 1774 and held his seat when the great question of independence came up. To this he gave his vote and signature. He was later chosen governor of his state and became much respected. In 1791 he was seized with the gout and died. An autograph letter of Mr. Harrison will be very hard to obtain. A few are known to be in existence but they are hidden from sight in collections where money could not buy them. A letter signed is worth eight or ten dollars, but the name is seldom seen or heard of. A peculiarity of the autograph is in the last letter of his name the letter "n" ending in an oblique line downward.

Francis Lightfoot Lee was a brother of Richard Henry Lee. He became interested in the cause of liberty, doing all that lay in his power to advance its interests. He was a man of quiet disposition and his public life was not of great importance. Suffice to say his name is excessively rare in any form. Several letters have been sold for twenty dollars each, but they are growing scarcer year by year and as in the case of the writer, the name is prominent by its absence.

Thomas Nelson was from York county. In 1761 he returned to his native state, married and by the fortune given him by his father was enabled to live in ease. In July 1775 he took his seat in the Continental Congress and was present when the Declaration was passed, giving it his vote and signing the great document. He afterward became a general of state troops and in 1781, when the whole force of the southern British army was endeavoring to subjugate his state he was called to its head. He did not shrink from it, but took the field at the head of his people and came out victorious. He died in 1789 at the age of fifty. The autograph of Mr. Nelson is a plain, simple "Thos. Nelson, jr." It is not rare, a good letter of Revolutionary date being worth ten or twelve dollars.

We now come to the rarest names in the series, those of the extreme Southern delegations. Whether the heat of the climate producing a disinclination to write has made this scarcity we are unable to say. It is, however, a fact that in any American series, the southern men are the rarest and this will be found surprisingly true with the Signers.

The North Carolina men were three, but what a three! Wm. Hooper, John Penn and Joseph Hewes. They are to a man excessively rare in any form, making a prominent gap in almost every collection. Three simple names which should not be rarer than the others, yet so seldom are they seen that a collector may well feel proud if he possess one of them. Of them, if there is such a thing, William Hooper is the easiest to obtain, inasmuch as his name may be found upon a document now and then, while with the other two it is a strange fact that if a specimen does turn up, it is a fine letter. The writer has never seen a document or letter simply signed by either Mr. Hewes or Mr. Penn, but has in his Portfolios a two page quarto autograph letter of Mr. Hewes in 1775 and a like specimen of Mr. Penn in 1776. Mr. Hooper was from the town of Boston, but moved south before the war. In 1774 he took his seat in Congress and sat through the year 1776, when he aided maternally in the cause of Liberty, making his name famous by signing the great document. He was at the time but 32 years of age. During the years 1776-77 his fortunes fell in hard lines and

he was obliged to relinquish his seat in the councils of his country and return to his home. He was a small man, of delicate and slender appearance. An autograph letter of Mr. Hooper generally means about \$50 difference in one's fortune after purchasing.

Joseph Hewes wrote long letters and interesting ones, too. He wrote about the war, the movements of the enemy and in a letter which the writer once saw, he expressed himself as "hating republics," and then soon after signed the Declaration of Independence. If the name of Mr. Hewes is found at all, it will be a good specimen. He wrote a plain hand and as a rule a fine letter. Taking his seat in Congress in 1774 he continued until October 1779, to represent his state, when he died. A good letter of Mr. Hewes, we think, would bring from forty to fifty dollars, but so seldom are they to be had that a price would not represent anything. It will bring a price according to the wants of a collector.

John Penn is the rarest of the three, as in the case of Mr. Hewes, an autograph letter is the most common form in which the name can be had. His letters are always of historical interest, full of incident and patriotism, generally written in a round, plain hand and signed as neatly as any which adorned the Declaration. He was a member of Congress from 1775 to 1780 when he retired to private life, dying in 1788 at the age of 46. An autograph letter of Mr. Penn will bring \$50 at sight and in a few years much more.

The South Carolina men were four. Mr. Edward Rutledge was a lawyer of brilliancy and tact. He was so admired by his fellow citizens that in 1774, at the age of twenty-five he was elected to a seat in the Continental Congress and affixed his name to the Declaration, the *youngest* of all the Signers. He acted with Dr. Franklin and John Adams as a committee to wait upon Lord Howe in regard to negotiations for peace. In 1779 he retired from Congress and in 1780, upon the entrance of Charlestown by the British, he was taken prisoner. In 1798 he became governor of his state, but lived only a short time, dying in 1800. Mr. Rutledge's autograph is easily recognized. He wrote his name in an angular hand having the appearance of being a rapid writer. A document is worth \$5 and a letter \$18.

Thomas Heyward, jr., was also a lawyer. But little is known of him until 1775 when he was called to a place in Congress to succeed the distinguished John Rutledge. He voted for and signed the great paper. In 1780 he became a prisoner of war and was transported to St. Augustine. In the meantime his property was confiscated and his fortune scattered. He died in March 1809. A letter signed by Mr. Heyward is about the only available form of the name to be found and is worth about twelve dollars. We have never seen an autograph letter advertised for sale, although there are a few in existence. Mr. Heyward's hand-writing is different from any of his fellow-signers. His pen seemed to leave the paper at almost every stroke, giving a peculiar look to the letter upon its completion.

We now come to the *rarest* name of all, Thomas Lynch, jr. But little of his life is known, except that he became a member of Congress just in time to sign the Declaration and soon after gave up his seat. His health failed and in 1779, with his wife he embarked for Europe. This is the last that was ever heard of him, the vessel probably foundering. Mr. Lynch's autograph was a plain, simple signature, but to find one is the crowning event in the life of an autograph collector. But one autograph letter is known to be in existence, a folio in the collection of Thomas Addis Emmet of New York. The other sets of the Signers boast of nothing better than a signature generally on the leaf of a book. In the Bolton sale at Boston, in 1882, \$145 was realized for one and in the recent Cist sale at New York, the price jumped to \$210. Think of this for a cut signature. There are supposed to be about 20 complete sets of the signers in existence, but, for the name of Lynch, there would be many more. Without doubt, it is the rarest known American autograph.

Arthur Middleton was the last of the delegation. In 1775 he was appointed upon a committee to put his colony in a state of defence and later one of the committee of Safety. In the spring of 1776 he was chosen to the great Congress and had the honor of signing the Declaration. He was a man of fine features and form, his face showing firmness and distinction. He died January 1, 1787. An autograph letter of Mr. Middleton cannot be found at this late day. What few there are are treasured up in the collections of a favored few. A document signed, and one is found now and then, is worth \$15.

Georgia, the last of the colonies furnished three signers.

Button Gwinnett is next to Lynch in point of rareness. In fact the two at an auction sale would bring nearly the same figure. We need not say how few there are in existence. They could almost be counted on one's fingers and no additions are discovered. The supply seems to be completely exhausted and a collector may well fold his arms in despair when he reaches his name. He became a member of Congress in May, 1776 and signed the Declaration. In 1777 he was competitor with Lochlan McIntosh for the office of Brigadier General, but was defeated. This soured him and through the year he was continually in a strife. In May 1777, matters became so serious that Mr. Gwinnett challenged Mr. McIntosh to a duel. They fought at a distance of twelve feet and Mr. Gwinnett was killed. The last sale of an autograph of Mr. Gwinnett was for \$185.

Lyman Hall was from Connecticut, but early moved south. In May 1775 he appeared in the halls of Congress and was present when the great question was submitted to the house. His vote is recorded in favor of it and his signature was appended to the document. He continued a member of Congress until 1780. In 1783 he was elected Governor of Georgia. His name with Messrs. Lewis Morris, Lynch and Gwinnett, form a quartette, which in point of scarcity make an unequalled in our history. An autograph letter of Mr. Hall is not found in three days. A document signed will bring \$50 with few chances to pay even that.

George Walton was the last of this great band of patriots to sign the immortal Declaration of Independence. He was a lawyer in Savannah but when the disturbing elements of a war with the mother country appeared, Mr. Walton at once took his stand with the colonists. In February, 1776 he was elected to the Continental Congress and continued a member through 1781. He became Governor of his state before his death which occurred in 1804. The autograph of Mr. Walton is not rare only in the form of a Revolutionary letter, when the price is much increased. A document signed is worth \$5.

With this we close our papers upon the Signers. There are probably not twenty full sets in existence. The collection of Dr. Emmet, of New York boasts of three; Mr. John S. H. Fogg, of So. Boston and Hon. Mellin Chamberlain of Boston have each one set, the former one a very fine one. Mr. Gratz and Mr. Dreer of Philadelphia, own the series complete and it is said the Queen of England possesses all the names.

Notes on Some Kentucky Birds.

I.

BY L. O. ENDAR.

SAYONIS PHOEBE. Pewee, Phoebe bird, Pewit Flycatcher, Bridge Pewee, Bridge-bird, Spider-bird, etc.

It is the 24th of March, 1887. Early in the evening I am standing on a hill overlooking a small stream which is bordered with beech trees. A plum orchard is on my left, deep woods, looking dark and deeper still without the sun's rays to brighten them, on my right. Blackbirds are flying over to their roosts in large flocks. A martin, the second of the year is hawking overhead. What is that bird in a beech down there? It is a flycatcher as you can tell by the large head and ever-moving tail. Let us go nearer and investigate. "Pewit, Pewit." Ah! There is no mistaking that note. It is the Phoebe bird, the first of the year, so common as to have received half a dozen names besides those given above. This bird is half domesticated. Like the Bluebird and Barn Swallow.

These "pewit" notes will only be heard for a few weeks now and then the birds will commence nest-building. The original nest was generally on the side of a stone overhanging water, but sometimes among the roots of an upturned tree. Now they build among the eaves and rafters of a barn as often as anywhere else. The eggs are 4 to 6 in number, normally white, unspotted, often with spots of reddish-brown around the larger end. Very pretty, especially when the nest is made of green moss, as it often is.

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1. DIAMOND.

1. A letter. 2. An opening. 3. A collection of several hermitages. 4. Bits of bacon. 5. Certain plants. 6. Street songs. 7. Descents, (Obs). 8. A base analogous to ammonia. 9. A town of Morocco, (Lipp). 10. Beholds, (vow). 11. A letter. Phila., Pa. "Cloves."

2. CHARADE.

The lazy *primal* wandered o'er Oporto, 'til his feet were sore, And begged his food, from door to door. "Oh, port! You geese!" he oft would roar To sailors, on a spree, ashore, Who treated, at a liquor store. From work he rigidly forbore, Yet, though he never did a chore, For *central* he would oft implore. He never sweat at ev'ry pore, From delving into mystic lore, For he was lazy, to the core. He had a most terrific snore, And those who heard him *snore*, swore That they would have the village in a gore. So roused were the clothes he wore, (From sleeping, often, on the floor) That, frequently, he begged for more. And still, this horrid, dirty bore Is doubtless *total*, as before, And tramping as in days of yore. N. Y. City. "Skeeziks."

3. DIAMOND.

1. A letter. 2. A worthless fellow. 3. Gown. 4. A plant of the genus Caladium. 5. Overcomes by argument. 6. Stanitzia, Don Cossack Co., Russia, (By). 7. To suspect again. 8. Dost adorn. 9. To return an impulse. 10. To fit. 11. A letter. Brooklyn, N. Y. "Tantrums."

4. TRANSPPOSITION.

BRING SOME NEW AIDS: you must, indeed; To make more converts to such a creed: It is too visionary quite, And reason spurns it from her sight: 'Tis what no one can understand, Yet some folks say that it is grand, For they have such a turn of mind As most admire what is most blind. Its author claimed that he could tell Of wonders seen in heaven and hell: Strange fantasies were in his head, He talked with angels, so he said, And spirits from the upper world. To him mysterious truths unfurled, Such as they ne'er had deigned to show 'Till then, to denizens below. They told him just how worlds were made, And all the secrets of the trade. Of sun and spheres they told far more Than ever had been known before. As vague and wild such fancies seem As grotesque phantoms in a dream. Nelson, Ill. "Nelsonian."

5. DIAMOND.

1. A letter. 2. A Hebrew measure, (Obs). 3. Lanes, (Prov. Eng). 4. Shoemakers' threads. 5. Agree. 6. Town of Todd Co., Minn. 7. Grounds of trust. 8. Town of Eastern Asia. 9. A town of Turkey. 10. Town of Asia Minor. 11. A letter. East Brady, Pa. "St. Elmo."

6. ANAGRAM.

MAN SHOWS GRIT when he stands up To argue with his wife, Upon an abstract topic, With doubtful interest rife. His logic may be forcible, With sense and reason fraught, But with her little broomstick She brings it down to naught. His *reductio ad absurdum* may Be withering in power; His *ergo* may with blighting force On each objection shower. But when the nimble rolling-pin Plays round his lordly ears, He straightways gathers up his heels And quickly disappears. Binghamton, N. Y. "Pygmalion."

7. OBLIQUE DIAMOND.

1. A letter. 2. To moisten. 3. A season of great excitement. 4. More plant. 5. Embellished. 6. Relating to a marriage law. 7. Converts into a jelly-like substance. 8. Mineral resins. 9. Counts. 10. Glittering stones. 11. A French article. 12. A letter. Brooklyn, N. Y. "Yours Truly."

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CONFAB.

What think you of this issue? Hey! Yours Truly's 12 "Oblique Diamond" is the second of its kind. —We would be pleased to hear from the lady contributors, will they oblige.—As C. C. issues are now in vogue we will (see about it later on).—Tidbit Ware send 'em along.—Skeeziks no doubt number two will prove a "sticker" and the boys will have to scratch lively to get the solution. More?—Nelsonian. Thanks! Excellent! Will you favor us again?—Marmion has thus forgotten thy promise.—Look out for our next, several "old timers" have promised (merely promised) to favor us with "sumpin nice.—All those who are not familiar with the art of puzzling, by writing us and enclosing stamp will, receive any information they might desire.—All don't forget to send solutions, contributions and a subscription to—

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Telegraph Stamps and Franks of the United States.

BY W. ALFRED WARNER.

Before proceeding to describe these stamps and franks of our Telegraph Companies, let me distinctly state for the benefit of any foreign philatelist that these stamps and franks are not issued by the government but by private corporations. These stamps and franks I shall describe in the alphabetical order of their names.

AMERICAN RAPID TELEGRAPH CO., Issued in 1881, adhesive, perforated, size 22x27 m. m. Telegram (prepaid), there are eight values, 1c. black, 3c. orange, 5c. amber, 10c. purple, 15c. emerald-green, 20c. red, 25c. lake and 50c. blue, all of the same design. Large numeral of value, white, shaded dexter* and base, in solid color, on ground of rayed lines, in white framed curve sided polygon "AM" horizontal lined, with white pearl and scroll on solid ground in upper sinister corner. "RAPID TEL," white letters in solid oblique label over polygon; "CO." same in solid curve label under it at dexter side. "TELEGRAM" same on oblique label at bottom, with shaded over label sinister, six white pearls, (three above and below polygon) at sides, vertical on solid ground white band on dexter side and base, all on beveled tablet indented at top, base and sides. †Type 13.

COLLECT. (Unpaid). Same design as above save that the word "COLLECT" supplies the place of Telegram and the 1c. being in a rayed circle composed of "1's" many times repeated, decreasing in size towards the center. colored letters on white ground separated by rayed lines bordered by a white band, in same polygon as above; there being four values: 1c. slate, 5c. blue, 15c. red-brown and 20c. olive. These stamps were for unpaid or not sufficiently prepaid telegrams. Type 14.

DUPPLICATE. Large white numeral of value, shaded dexter and at base in solid color on ground of lathe work in diamond with curved sides, bordered by white band, on vertical and horizontal lined shield, beveled edges, "A" in upper sinister, "R" in upper dexter, "T" in lower sinister and "CO." in lower dexter corners, solid letters, German text. 1c. slate, 5c. blue, 15c. red-brown, 20c. olive. These stamps were used when a duplicate of the telegram was sent, the original being kept on file, and were put on the envelope as were the collect, while the Telegram was placed on the message blank and are much rarer cancelled in ink or die than those unused or with a hole punched in them. (Now obsolete) Type 14.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO TELEGRAPH CO. Issued April 14th, 1885, adhesive; perforated; size 20x25 m. m. (Am. Bank Note Co.) consists of four values, of the same design: i. e. B. O. white letters in solid tablet with horizontal lined frame, with triangle bordered by solid line and solid pearl on white ground at dexter and sinister sides of tablet, shaded key-stone, white framed, above and below tablet, on horizontal lined maltese cross in solid square, beveled frame at sides, bisected in center by white and solid bands, oblique, centea white band having three solid pearls on it, curved Greek ornaments in upper corners "1" white in solid tablet at top, framed at ends by band of eight vertical white pearls and white line on each side of pearls on solid ground at top, "COMMUNICATION" white block letters in solid tablet at bottom, horizontal lined ornament extending under tablet, solid bands at ends of tablet, beveled rectangle in lower sinister and dexter corners, all on beveled tablet. 1c. vermilion, 5c. blue, 10c. spruce-brown, 25c. orange. Type 18.

SECOND ISSUE, same surcharged with book numbers in which they are sold. June 1st, 1885. 1c. vermilion surch'd in blue, surch'd in red. Aug. 1st, 1885, 10c. spruce-brown surch'd in blue; Sept. 1885, 25c. blue surcharged in blue.

THIRD ISSUE, same design and size, (Kendall Bank Note Co.) surcharged with book number. Oct. 12th, 1885, 1c. green surch'd in red, 5c. Prussian blue, 10c. deep amber surch'd red. Oct. 25th, 25c. bistre surch'd in red.

COMPLIMENTARY FRANKS. Issued in 1885. Adhesive, perforated, size 26x30 m. m. Same design save date "1885" in colored figures on white vertical labels, framed by inner and outer line of solid color on sinister and dexter sides, border by white and solid band, and bands of seven white pearls on solid ground under labels. "No." white letters on solid label in shaded, arched ornament over maltese cross, white pearl, "FRANK" and pearl in white, on solid curved label at top framed by beveled vertical lined band, square ends "COMPLIMENTARY" white block letters in solid label framed with double white line above, upper line extending beyond inner at sides, shaded line at bottom ending in vertical lined ornament in center, white Greek ornaments at

sides, "D. H. Bates" in script and "PRES." in solid letters over complimentary, all on horizontal lined tablet, beveled at top, bottom and sides. (American Bank Note Co.) no value, 1885, brown surch'd in blue, type 19. Ditto 1886, black, ditto in red, type 19.

CALIFORNIA STATE TELEGRAPH CO. Issued in 1871, adhesives perforated, size 25x30 m. m. engraved. Scrolls in upper spandrels, date vertical in scarlet in upright oval in centre surrounded by scrolls, over oval on small white curved band "FRANK" in black letters, above this in a solid black curved band "CAL. STATE" in white letters, below oval a solid curved band with "TELEGRAPH" in white letters, below this at base "Geo. W. Mumford, Pres." in black script on small white scroll, all surrounded by scroll work and enclosed in solid rectangular frame.

No VALUE, 1871, black, white center. Same surcharged in blue over date with frank number, white center, issued in 1871. Adhesive, unperforated, size 23x27 m. m., lithographed. Scrolls in upper spandrels, red upright oval in center, shaded with white on sinister side, date in oval in white block figures, above the oval a small curved band of vertical lines bearing the word "FRANK" in block letters, scroll work above and below a curved solid band "CAL. STATE" above, "TELEGRAPH" below in white letters, under this a scroll tablet bearing "Geo. W. Mumford, Pres." in black script, framed by band of solid color. 1871 (no value) black, red center.

MERCHANTS' LINE TELEGRAPH CO. Issued 1850. Adhesive, unperforated, size 19x25 m. m. Frank, rectangular frame, concave corners, enclosing double lined shield, "MERCHANTS" curved at top, "LINE" curved under it, "TELEGRAPH" in straight line across the center, "29" in outline under it, "WALL ST." in curve below. "N. YORK" curved under Wall St., all ornamented with curved lines. Eagle with outstretched wings, perched on top of shield. 1850 (no value) black, on red paper. Type 16.

MUTUAL UNION TELEGRAPH CO. Issued 1882. Adhesive, perforated size 24x30 m. m. Center composed of network of clouded oblique cross lines on white ground arched top, "MUTUAL UNION" white letters in solid arched band framed white, at top "TELEGRAPH COMPANY" white letters on solid double curved scroll framed, crossing network under arch, "FRANK" white block letters on network under scroll. "No." solid letters under it. "John O. Evans" in solid script, in horizontal line, fancy tablet under network, "PRESIDENT" solid letters in same tablet in lower dexter corner "COMPLIMENTARY" white letters on solid ground at bottom M. U. in monograms in upper corners, 1882, solid figures on horizontal lined ground at sides, all on beveled tablet. 1882, (no value) blue, type 17. Ditto type 17 unperforated. 1883, ditto rose, type 17.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH CO. Issued Feb. 12th, 1885. Adhesive, perforated, size 19-1-2x24 1-4 m. m. Large white "10" shaded dexter and at base, in double oval of lathe work, bordered by white band, "POSTAL TELEGRAPH" white block letters in solid curved label, white framed over oval, white diamond and two pearls on upper sides, "COMPANY" in white in solid curved label, white framed under oval, all on tablet of white and colored vertical bands, solid ornaments in upper spandrels "TEN CENTS" white letters in straight line on solid ground at bottom. 10c. green. Type 20.

Large white "25" in shield of lathe work, bordered by white band "POSTAL" white letters in solid curved scroll at top, "TELEGRAPH COMPANY" same in double solid curved band under it. "TWENTY-FIVE CENTS" same in double solid curved band under shield, all on oblique white and colored banded tablet, fancy corners with white pearls at each side. 25c. blue, type 21.

Large white "50" in irregular upright oval of lathe work, "POSTAL" white letters in straight solid band at top, "TELEGRAPH" sinister, "COMPANY" dexter, same in solid arch'd band over oval, ornamental spandrels in upper corners, scrolls in lower corners, "FIFTY CENTS" white letters in solid curved band at bottom. 50c. brown, type 22.

THE CITY & SUBURBAN TELEGRAPH CO. Issued 18? Adhesive, unperforated, size 30x20 m. m. Numeral "1 CENT" outline letters and black lines, in oblong black oval bordered by a white line "THE CITY & SUBURBAN TELEGRAPH" black letters on outer band, enclosed by black line and twenty-nine scalloped points. 1c. black on white. 2c. same save the word cents is abbreviated to "CTS." 2c. black on white. 3c. black on white. There exists a 2c. blue on white but I believe it to be a counterfeit.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO. Issued Jan. 1st, 1871. Adhesive, perforated, size 25x30 m. m. "FRANK" in outline colored letters, shaded dexter, "No." in solid color under it and number surch'd under it in square of Western Union many times repeated. "WESTERN UNION," white letters in solid curved label, on shaded ground at top "TELEGRAPH COMPANY" same, in double curved label, scroll framed under it "Wm. Orton" in solid script, "PRESIDENT" in solid letters under it, in white framed tablet on ground of "Western Union" many times repeated, in circular bands and scrolls. "COMPLIMENTARY" white letters on solid ground at bottom, all on ground of vertical lines, upper corners curved. No value, 1871, green; 1872, vermilion; 1873, blue; 1874, brown, t 11; Dated in solid color at sides, 1875, green; 1876, vermilion; 1877, mauve; 1878, bistre. "Norvin Green, Pres." 1879, blue; 1880, rose; 1881, green, 1882, blue; 1883, brown; 1884, mauve; 1885, mauve; 1886, mauve; 1887—? Type 12.

Several of these companies are now obsolete, being merged into the Western Union, Baltimore & Ohio and Postal and Cable Co. The stamps of the California State, Merchants' Line, Mutual Union, Postal Telegraph and City & Suburban are extremely rare. To Mr. E. B. Sterling of Trenton, N. J., to whom I am indebted for the California State and City and Suburban, who kindly loaned them from his collection for this article, also to Mr. D. H. Baes, Pres't Baltimore & Ohio, for the frank, I sincerely return thanks for their kindness.

*Right. †Left. Scott's Standard Catalogue, 4th edition.

Indian's Residents.

BY LEONARD T. MEYER.

WOOD PEWEE. [*Contopus Virens*].—There is probably no flycatcher as abundant as the wood pewee. It arrives here about the first of May and departs Sept. 10th. Their food consists of insects and lepidoptera. On one occasion I saw one trying to catch a moth fully as large as itself.

Its only note is "pewee," giving the accent on the last syllable and prolonging it. It is also quite nocturnal in its habits, for I have heard them as late as 10 p. m. and early as 3 a. m. This bird delights to dwell on the borders of thick oak woods and here at their nesting places. Although they arrive early, they do not begin to breed till late; the earliest I ever found them was June 1st and as late as July 21st with fresh eggs. The first set is invariably three, but the second set in the season (if the first has been taken) will be two eggs of a lighter coloration. The eggs are a creamy-white dotted and blotched with purple, reddish-brown and lavender, often forming a confluent wreath around the larger end. The eggs measure about .70x.54.

The nest—a very pretty structure—is usually saddled on a forked limb or branch and often on deadones. It is furnished with lichens held down with cobwebs and when finished it so resembles a knot that it often eludes the glance of the skilled oologist. Taken as a whole their nest, containing three eggs is the prettiest sight a collector will meet in a week's collecting.

PIGEON BIRD. [*Sayornis fuscus*].—This bird arrives about April 1st and remains later than the preceding. Its usual food is insects, but it has been known to eat seeds during a heavy blizzard. It rears two broods a year, nesting about April 25 to June 1st.

The nests are situated in bridges, barns, old huts and in stone ledges. For its partiality for bridges it is often called Bridge Pewee. The same nest is occupied year after year. The nest is composed of hair, wool, moss and mud. If placed against a raft it is constructed very much like the Barn Swallow. The complement is four or five, seldom spotted and measure .70x.53. I found a nest in a log hut, with two young birds and one fresh egg. There was a Swift's nest about four feet from it.

SCARLET Tanager. [*Byranga rubra*].—This beautiful bird arrives here about May 5th, usually in pairs. Of all our feathered friends this is probably the most beautiful. The male is a brilliant scarlet with the exception of its wings which are a velvety black. He does not obtain this color until he is two years old. He has a pleasing song.

This is the hardest bird we have to get a complete set of eggs, as the Cowbird shows the greatest partiality for their nests. I have often found a nest with one tanager and three cowbird eggs patiently presided over by the female tanager. It begins to nest about May 15th but fresh eggs may be obtained as late as June 10. The eggs are a greenish-blue blotched with reddish-brown, measuring 1.05x.63.

The nest—a very fragile affair—is situated on some horizontal limb and is

composed of hay, roots and dried mint. It is so transparent that the eggs may often be counted from the ground. This bird once so common is rapidly becoming extinct; for Dame Fashion has said they belong to the ladies for decorating (?) purposes.

SHORE LARK. [*Crenophila Alpestris*]. This bird is a common summer and winter resident with us. It is often called Horned Lark on account of a horn-like tuft of feathers on each side of its head. It breeds as early as April 15th, but fresh eggs may be found as late as May 20th. The nest is situated in a hollow in the ground scratched out by the bird and is finished with hay, hair and thistle-down. The eggs are four in number and are a light drab in color, spottily with various shades of brown, reminding one very much of a shrike's egg on a small scale. They measure about .90x.75. Several times have I found a nest with one or two eggs in it and left them for a day or two to fill out the set; but on returning found that some fresher had carried them out of my reach.

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VOL. I.

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NO. 10.

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Was it, Robin, you?
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Pretty, winsome thing,
Mrs. Robin Redbreast,
Whoed and won in Spring?
Tell me, Robin Redbreast—
Tell me, Robin, now,
Who sang in the cherry-tree,
Swinging on the bough;
Sang about a nest, all
Grass and moss entwined,
A home-nest neatly fashioned,
Hair and feather lined.
Tell me, Robin Redbreast—
Tell me, Robin, pray,
Who piped in the cherry-tree,
Piped of treasures gray,
Gray and round and spotted brown,
Robin, tell me who
Warbled all these pretty things.
Was it, Robin, you?—Golden Days.

Colonial Coins.

BY H. J. MIRON.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

New Hampshire was one of the first, if not the first colony to adopt a copper coinage. In 1776 the subject was agitated and the General Assembly passed an Act authorizing one William Moulton to coin the same. On their obverse is a tree with "American Liberty" above; reverse, a harp with "1776" below. The coinage was not carried out to any great extent and only one or two specimens are known of at the present writing. Several years ago a copper was dug up at Portsmouth having upon the obverse a tree, with "1776." Reverse, in the center the letters "W. M." surrounded by the legend, "American Liberty." We are unable to tell whether this was a pattern piece of the William Moulton copper, or a specimen of another general issue. We are inclined to think, however that it is simply a pattern piece.

VERMONT.

On the 27th of October, 1785, the colony of Vermont passed an Act authorizing the coinage of copper coins. The first issue bears the date 1785. On the obverse, the sun is sinking behind wooded mountains, beneath which is a plow, the whole surrounded by "Vermonts Res Publica," and the date, "1785." Reverse: In the center is a human eye, surrounded by a series of the sun's rays and thirteen stars are placed between the outer ends of the thirteen long rays and the same number of shorter rays alternate with the former, making in all twenty-six rays in the circle, all of which is surrounded by the legend, "Quarta Decima Stella." There are several varieties of this type of the Vermont coppers. On the obverse of one



variety is "Vermontis Res Publica," on another, "Vermontensium Res Publica," and on another rare variety the sun is on the left instead of on the observer's right. These coins were issued during 1785 and part of 1786. In 1786 what is called the "Baby Head" copper made its appearance.



On the obverse is a bust which resembles the head of a child; legend "Auctori Vermon." Reverse, Goddess of Liberty seated.



ed holding an olive branch in her extended hand, which she is evidently offering to some unseen object. Legend, "Inde et Lib." In exergue, "1786." Another variety issued during the years 1786, '87 and '88 bears on the obverse a head and the legend "Vermont Auctori." Reverse, Goddess of Liberty seated, and the legend, "Inde et Lib." with date below. There are a number of varieties of this type, among which is one of 1787 having the legend "Britannia" on the reverse and there is another of 1788 with the legend transposed, thus, "Et Lib Inde." There is also a rare piece having on the obverse similar designs to those just described and on the reverse the Goddess of Liber-

erty seated and the legend, "Immune Columbia" and the date, "1785." Many of the 1787 coins have no date and are roughly executed on the reverse, while the reverses have very fine impressions. The first issues were struck by Reuben Harmon, of Rupert. He afterwards took in as partners, Wm. Cooley, James F. Atlee, D. Brooks, James Green, James Giles, Thomas Machin, Daniel Voorhees and Elias Jackson, which is pretty good evidence that large numbers of the coins were issued. Vermont coppers bring anywhere from 25 cents for a fair specimen of 1787 to \$15 for a very fine coin of 1785.

STAMP ISSUING COUNTRIES AND THEIR STAMPS.

BY JOHN M. HUBBARD.

IV. COSTA RICA.

Costa Rica, the most southern republic of Central America, has an area of 25,000 square miles and a population of 200,000, mostly of Spanish descent. It is divided into six provinces. The executive power is vested in a president who is elected for four years, two vice-presidents and four ministers. The president is General Prospero Fernandez. The legislative power is in a Congress of Deputies, who are chosen for a term of four years. There is no standing army with the exception of 900 soldiers of the militia, which is composed of about 17,000 able-bodied men between the ages of 15 and 30. The state religion is Roman Catholic, but other beliefs are tolerated. The soil is very fertile and there are vast forests of mahogany, ebony, Brazil-wood and India Rubber trees. Tropical fruits are raised in abundance. The standard coin is 1 peso=\$1=100 centavos.

Postage stamps were first issued in Costa Rica in 1862. Two varieties were issued, of the following design: In the center is a view of the isthmus with a ship under full sail on each side; above, in a curved line, five stars; on band above, "Correos de Costa Rica;" at the top in curved line, "Pais" at the left, the value in letters at the right, between which is the fraction denoting the value; in a straight line at the bottom is the value in words; ornamented frame of scrolls and flags.

The values were

1862, 1-2 (medio) real, blue.

" 2 (dos) reales, scarlet.

In 1863 the same design was continued but the stamps were perforated:

1863, 1-2 real, blue;

" 2 reales, scarlet;

" 4 " green;

" 1 peso, orange.

The 1-2 real, blue was surcharged "2 cts." In 1881 and the year following the same value was surcharged "1 ct." There were also four other surcharges in 1882, viz: "dos cts." in a perpendicular line on the 1-2 real, blue, "5 cts. U. P. U." in three lines on the 1-2 real blue; "10 cts. U. P. U." on the 2 reales scarlet and "20 cts. U. P. U." on the 4 reales green.

In 1883 a new set of five varieties was issued as follows:

1883, 1c. green,

" 2c. carmine,

" 5c. purple,

" 10c. orange,

" 40c. blue.

Two values of revenue stamps were used for postage in 1884, viz: 1 centavo, red and 2 centavos blue.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Official stamps were issued in 1883 and are the same as the regular issue of that year, only surcharged "Official" in a straight line. Following are the values:

1883, 1c. green, red surcharge,

" 2c. carmine, blue "

" 5c. purple, red "

" 10c. orange, green "

" 40c. blue, red "

1885, 1c. green, black "

" 2c. carmine, " "

In 1886 four values were surcharged "Official" in straight line:

1c. green, black surcharge,

2c. carmine, " "

5c. purple, red "

10c. orange, black "

These values were also surcharged "OFFICIAL" in much heavier type, making 8 varieties of official stamps issued in 1886.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

But two varieties of envelope stamps have been issued. The portrait is in oval with lined background, surrounded by a band, inscribed at the top and sides, "Union Postal Universal," below, the value. "Costa Rica" in a straight line at the top, "Centavos" at the bottom and numerals of value in each corner.

1886, 5 centavos, blue,
" 10 " orange.

GUNACASTE.

This is a province of Costa Rica and the stamps are those of Costa Rica surcharged. The following are surcharged "Gunacaste" in a horizontal line across the stamp from left to right.

1885, 1c. green, black surcharge,

" 2c. carmine, " "

" 5c. purple, " "

" 10c. orange, " "

" 40c. blue, " "

1886, 1c. green, red "

" 5c. purple, " "

" 40c. blue, " "

The following are surcharged "GUNA-CASTE" in a perpendicular line from top to bottom, in black:

1885, 1c. green,

" 2c. red,

" 10c. orange,

1886, 5c. purple.

In 1886 three more values were surcharged "Gunacaste" in a horizontal line, viz:

5c. purple, red surcharge,

10c. orange, black "

40c. blue, red "

These stamps are easily obtained, with the exception of the 40c. blue, which is catalogued at about \$1 and the 10c. orange, 1885, which retails for 50c.

New Brunswick and its Postage Stamps.

BY J. WHITEMORE HALSEY.

New Brunswick is a province of the Dominion of Canada and is situated between Maine and the Gulf of St. Lawrence and has an area of about 27,500 square miles, and is about the size of Kentucky. Most of the surface of this province is low and flat and the coasts, though rocky, have many excellent harbors. The bay of Fundy, between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia has higher tides than at any other place in the world. The climate of New Brunswick is very pleasant in Summer but the winters are very severe. There are many fine farms, and the principal crops are wheat, corn, barley, oats and potatoes. The cod and herring fisheries near the coast employ thousands of fishermen and many ships. The inhabitants are mostly of English descent and are ruled by a lieutenant-governor appointed by the Governor of Canada. New Brunswick was settled in 1639, by the French, who named the country (including Nova Scotia) Acadia, or New France. Acadia became a colony of England in 1713 and in 1784 New Brunswick was separated from Nova Scotia. In 1867 it was made a province of Canada.

The first series of postage stamps was issued in 1851 and consists of three varieties of the following design: A triangle with small numerals of value in each cor-



ner, "New Brunswick postage" at sides and the top, and the value at the bottom. In the center is a crown, surrounded by a wreath, stars, flowers and vines. The values and colors of this set are 3 pence, red, 6 pence yellow and 1 shilling violet. In 1860, Mr. Charles Connell the postmaster general conceived the idea of an improvement on the stamps of the first issue. Accordingly he had designs made and employed the American Bank Note Co., of New York, to print them. Each value had a different design; on the one



cent, a steam engine, "New Brunswick postage one cent" in oval enclosing the engine, "cent" in small label below, large numerals of value in lower corners and small numerals in upper corners complete the design; On the 5 cent, green and 10 cent vermilion appears the head of Queen Victoria facing to the left. On the 12 1-2 cent, blue, is a steamer passing through the water at an apparently rapid rate. The 17 cent, black, bears the bust of the Prince of Wales in Scotch costume. In 1861 a 5 cent stamp bearing the portrait of post-master general Connell was issued. This stamp was in use but a single day and consequently they are very rare. The first five named values of this set were

issued and used until the year 1867, when they were superseded by the stamps of Canada. The stamps of New Brunswick are, I think, the most interesting of the Canadian provinces and are becoming rarer each year, so I advise those collectors who have not as yet obtained a complete set as far as possible, to do so at once, as the limited stock of these stamps now in the hands of dealers bids fair to become exhausted before long.

The Mammoth Image from Easter Isle.

The United States man-of-war Galena, Commander Colby M. Chester, of the North Atlantic Squadron, anchored this morning in the Potomac off Alexandria, here from Aspinwall. The Galena has on board the great stone image or statue secured last year on Easter Island for the Smithsonian Institute. The statue weighs fifteen tons. It was transported to Panama by the United States ship Mohican, Commander Day, and thence by rail across the Isthmus. Within a few days this extraordinary relic of South Sea barbarism will have reached its destination, the Smithsonian Museum, after having been nearly a year on the way. The Galena was visited and admired by a good many people today. Although obsolete and comparatively useless as a war ship, she is a very handsome vessel and seems none the worse for the heavy weather experienced on the voyage.

Easter Island is in the eastern part of the Pacific Ocean, 2,300 miles from the coast of South America. It has about a thousand inhabitants of the Polynesian race, and is seldom visited by navigators. Since 1865, when some French missionaries landed among them, they have become Christians. The island contains several hundred gigantic stone statues, the largest of which is forty feet high, and measures nine feet across the shoulders. They are scattered about the island, which is about eleven miles long and six wide, generally prostrate. They were carved out of the common rock of the island, and some are tolerably well chiseled.

Nothing is known as to the origin of these rude works of art and worship. As the present race has neither tools for such sculpture nor means of moving such huge masses, it seems certain that they were cut in some former age. Native traditions give them a supernatural origin. It has recently been conjectured that the island is the remnant of a submerged continent, and that these statues were made for idols by an extinct race.—[New York World.

A man in New York is the owner of a watch which was made in 1620 by Thomas Linford of London, and has the following interesting history: The watch was presented to Sir William Johnson by King George III on the occasion of the former leaving England to take charge of his majesty's affairs in the colony of New York. Sir William presented it to Joseph Brant, the famous Indian chief, with the remark that it was "surely worth at least forty rebel scalps." When Brant had his headquarters in the Schoharie valley the watch was taken from him with other booty, by Evert Van Epps of Fultonville, who was a paymaster in the American army. Van Epps was subsequently taken prisoner by Brant, who then recovered his watch. The grandfather of the present owner of the watch became a warm friend of Brant's in Canada after the war, and Brant made him a present of the timepiece. It has been in the Minthorn family ever since. It has always kept good time, and has been repaired but three times—first in 1825, again in 1831 and a third time in 1845.—[Boston Globe.

The collection of coins formed by the late John T. Raymond is now in the hands of Mr. Lyman H. Low, No. 853 Broadway, New York, who is cataloguing them to sell at public auction in New York during the latter part of June.—[N. Y. Telegram.

Confederate Money.

Since the downfall of the Southern Confederacy Confederate money has been growing more valuable each year, and any one desiring a few specimens should procure them at once. We have a small stock of Confederate bills, which we are selling at 10 cents each, or three varieties for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

Hints on Insect Collecting.

There is no branch of Natural History work that offers more attractions to the student than insect collecting. This book contains much valuable information as to the outfit necessary for collecting, the manner of preparing and mounting insects, the preparation of a cabinet, etc., and every collector should possess a copy. The book is recommended by the Agassiz Association and is mentioned in their hand book. Price, 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

H. J. MION, Editor.

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JUNE, 1887.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

— OF THE —

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

To speak right out in plain English, the more we see of the A. P. A., the more disgusted we are with some of its members. At the recent vote for Official Organ neither paper had a majority of the votes cast; President Tiffany then called for a ballot from the Board of Officers, to decide the matter, and the Western Philatelist was chosen. Now President Tiffany has a "chum," a plain and unsophisticated youth with a large sized head, called Mekeel, who is very desirous that the Association shall pay him several hundred dollars per year for what other papers are willing to do for nothing—and one paper will even pay \$25 per year for the privilege. Mr. Tiffany was no more pleased with the result than editor Mekeel, and while the former called for another vote of the Board of Officers, the latter was hustling around obtaining the names of 40 members who were willing to "appeal" from the decision. The second vote confirmed the first which shows that the Board are solid for the Western Philatelist. Still Mr. Tiffany and his "chum" are not happy. They have frustrated the will of the Board of Officers and as a last resort another vote of the members will probably be called for. When the members elected Mr. Tiffany as the chief officer of the Association, they supposed he would impartially perform the duties of his office, but if we are correctly informed—we sincerely hope we are not—they made a sad mistake. The Western Philatelist has offered to publish the reports and furnish the paper to members, free of charge, and we sincerely hope the vote of the Board of Officers will be sustained. We shall vote for the Western Philatelist every time we have the opportunity, and will fight it out on this line if it takes until Christmas.

Following is the vote of the members of the American Philatelic Association:

For the amendment, 141
Against the amendment, 29
Undecided, 4

Total, 174

For official organ:

Philatelic Journal of America, 79
Western Philatelist, 50
Quaker City Philatelist, 17
Empire State Philatelist, 15
Scattering, - 4

Total, 174

The result of the vote for official organ is a surprise to many—ourselves among the number. Why in the name of common sense 79 members should vote for the Philatelic Journal of America when that paper will charge so much more than the Western Philatelist, we fail to see. As a Philatelic Magazine we haven't a word of fault to find with the P. J. of A., but we think it is a mistake to select that journal when the terms of the Western Philatelist are so much more liberal.

The editor of the *Figaro* is all broken up because the majority of the members of the A. P. A., desired the American Philatelist abolished, and another paper made the official organ, and gives it to Brother Stebbins, who he accuses of being the original kicker, hot and heavy, and allows that he should not be at all sorry to have him withdraw from the Association. The coat fits us, Mr. *Figaro*, just as well as it does Mr. Stebbins, and we are willing to put it on, and wear it, too. Whether Mr. Stebbins has taken the advice of editor Voute or not, we are not informed, but we never take a hint without a kick, and No. 14—"that's me"—will stick to the Association. We believe the new official organ will be a great improvement over the old, and we have done all in our power to bring the change about; if we have made a mistake, it is an error of the head, not the heart. The Association has our best wishes, and we will do all in our power for its advancement.

It has been said by some that Editor Fraser might have made the *American Philatelist* much better than it has been, and all that sort of thing. We are not surprised at that. There never was but one perfect man and they crucified him. Everybody makes mistakes and there are always plenty of growlers. We usually say something when things don't go to suit us, but we never thought of laying any blame on to Mr. Fraser. We believe he has done the best he possibly could, under the circumstances. He has been limited as to the amount of money he should use and a first-class paper cannot be published for a song, so he has been compelled to publish the paper as it is. Mr. Fraser would have made the official organ the best Philatelic paper in the country if he had been allowed sufficient funds to do so and he is no more to blame because the paper is not a second "Stamp Collector" than we are because the Association could not allow him a sufficient amount of money to do with.

And now the *Quaker City Philatelist* is troubled with big fool in the head, and devotes over a column in their last issue to the abuse to Secretary Bradt. They "want to know how any official of the A. P. A., could vote for any other than THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST WHICH OFFERED—8 PAGES FREE—ONE COPY EACH MONTH TO EACH MEMBER FREE—AND AGREED TO PAY \$25.00 PER YEAR FOR THE PRIVILEGE." The "Publishing Co., Limited," are evidently mad clear through. Well, who cares if they are? The Q. C. P., had 17 votes out of the 174, yet they have the gall to try and buy the privilege and try to force their paper on the members. Kick, boys! kick all you please; you enjoy it and it doesn't trouble anyone else. The A. P. A., still lives, Sec. Bradt enjoys excellent health, 157 members out of 174 don't care a continental and the World likes to see the antics of the sore-headed office seekers. We hope the Q. C. P., will not follow the example of Horace Greely, and kick the bucket.

Plain Talk gives us quite a "send-off" in their May number, because in our last issue we explained their little circular which they had the "enterprise" to send out, "soliciting" votes to have that paper made the official organ of the American Philatelic Association. *Plain Talk* is no more fit to be the official organ than S. Allan Taylor is to be President of the Association; but from their circular, one would think it was the only paper in the country worthy of the honor. The circular was intended to pull the wool over the eyes of a majority of the members, but it didn't work worth a cent. It is not very "galling" to us, "to submit to the push and enterprise" of a paper that is so popular as to receive only one solitary vote after all their trouble. The fact is, their "push and enterprise"—so called—ran away with their judgement.

Mr. W. F. Greany, the popular San Francisco stamp, coin and curiosity dealer, after trying an advertisement in the *World* several times, sends us an ad. for one year and paid for a whole year in advance. This is the first time we were ever paid for a whole year's advertisement in advance. It shows that the paper is a good advertising medium, that Mr. Greany is confident that we "have come to stay" and that he has plenty of capital with which to conduct his business. He publishes the finest catalogue we have yet seen and will send one to any address on receipt of 2 cent stamp for postage. Address W. F. Greany, 827 Brannan St., San Francisco, Cal.

"It is our opinion that a set of unused Great Britain postage stamps goes a long way toward persuading one that James Chalmers was the inventor of the adhesive stamp."—[Philatelic Monthly.]

Brother Durbin has a long head on him—and so has Pat. Chalmers. We don't care a continental who invented the adhesive stamp, and we are of the opinion that the American Philatelic Press are throwing away too much valuable space discussing the matter.

Everything in the May number of the Philatelic Century is reprinted. We know it is sometimes hard to obtain original matter, but we would advise our young friends to make a determined effort to get one or two original articles for each issue. Exchange? Certainly we will and do anything else we can to help you along.

"*Plain Talk* may not be devoted exclusively to philately, but it gets there just the same."—[Plain Talk.]

It does, eh! One solitary vote as the result of sending out over 200 circulars, ha! ha! It looks to us as though the two crocodiles were very badly left.

The American Philatelist says, "The Texas Philatelist was noticable for its support of James Chalmers and the lies told about its subscription list." Correct, Brother Fraser, but which was the worst lie?

GOSSIP.

The Collectors' Review has added a cover. Quite an improvement.

Just think of it! 500 square-cut envelope stamps pays for this paper one year.

Why are some of the Government officials like some of its stamps? Because they are poor sticks.

The *CURIOSITY WORLD* contains more real Philatelic literature than many so called stamp papers.—[Figaro.]

Essays are designs of stamps rejected by the Government. Proofs are regular stamps struck off in various colors.

What is the difference between a boy and a stamp? One is licked with a stick, and the other is stuck with a lick.

Clinton Collins, formerly publisher of the Stamp World, has opened a law office at 64 W. Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

We will give a new GEM stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

At a recent sale in New York, a Baton Rouge, on the original envelope was sold for \$35 and a collection of 1275 stamps sold for \$41.

"Your Stamp Collectors of the World is the best out. Every collector should have a copy." B. J. Webster, Box 245, Pontiac, Mich.

S. B. Bradt, who has been associate editor of the Stamp for several months past, will hereafter contribute to the Western Philatelist only.

Our Monthly Visitor, a paper for young folks, contains a Philatelic column under the management of W. H. Goodrich, Fitchburg, Mass.

The June number of the Youth's Ledger contains an excellent likeness of Mr. C. H. Mekeel, publisher of the Philatelic Journal of America.

We have purchased a quantity of Latin's "Oologists' Hand Books" and can supply them at 15 cents each, post free. Address this office.

Those collectors of Stamps, Coins and Indian Relics who wish to dispose of their collections for cash should write to the publisher of this paper.

The postal system was first projected in the United States in 1692, but was not put into operation until 1710, when the States were a British Colony.

The Texas Philatelist has suspended and the publishers have paid back to their subscribers the balance their due in solid cash. This is a good example.

The International Collector is the name of a new paper published by Mendelson & Samuels, San Francisco, Cal. It is devoted to all kinds of collecting.

For 500 square-cut envelope stamps we will give a new *World* stamp album containing space for 2,520 stamps, or, if preferred, a year's subscription to this paper.

J. J. Casey's 10th sale of stamps will take place at the Auction Rooms of Thos. L. Buckner & Co., New York, June 9 and 10th. The catalogue contains 1,065 lots.

We wish good, reliable agents to sell stamps from our approval sheets. None but those who can furnish the best of references need apply. Address this office.

The Collector's Journal is to be published in Brooklyn, N. Y., commencing in July. Geo. H. Richmond is the advertising agent, but we are not informed who the publishers are.

It is said there are 3000 stamp collectors in San Francisco. It strikes us that some enterprising publisher might make a fortune there. There are three stamp collectors in Lake Village.

The Peerless Review has "turned up its toes to the daisies." Well, there will probably two or more come to its funeral. Its subscription list will be filled by the Youth's Ledger.

Benjamin Franklin was our first Postmaster General. He was appointed in 1753, with a salary of £600 for himself and secretary. He was removed in 1774 for being an "offensive partisan."

"Spring Styles in Stamps" is the way the Germantown Philatelist heads their list of New Issues. By the way, that paper has changed hands and Wm. M. Watson is now sole editor and proprietor.

"Enclosed please find 25 cents for your valuable paper, the *CURIOSITY WORLD*. Many thanks for the sample copy and I shall do all in my power to circulate it among friends and neighbors." William Carry, 259 Thames St., Newport, R. I.

We will send the *CURIOSITY WORLD* six months to any address in the United States or Canada, for only 300 square-cut envelope stamps, or one year for 500. We will also accept 50 cents worth of any U. S. postage or department stamps catalogued at more than 5 cents, for a year's subscription.

"Our Boys Natural History Club have decided that the *CURIOSITY WORLD* is the best Natural History paper published, and we enclose 25 cents for a year's subscription to Our Boy's Natural History Club, 1,608 Madison Ave., Covington, Ky."

For only 25 cents we will send post free to any address, one copy each of the "Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and Sell." Every collector should own a set of these books, and now is the time to buy them.

"Rare American Coins, their Description and past and Present Fictitious Values" is the title of a new book by E. Locke Mason. It contains nearly fifty illustrations and is very interesting and instructive. Price, 25 cents. Address this office.

A Canadian Philatelic Association is being organized. They will establish an exchange bureau which will be open to the world. All who wish to join should forward their names to John R. Hooper, 68 Albert St., Ottawa, Secretary *pro tem*, who will give all information required.

We wish our correspondents would remember that we are neither a Frenchman, Dutchman or a Spaniard, and write their letters in United States. We can wade through poor writing and not grumble, but a letter in French, German or Spanish makes us tired—unless there is money in it.

"I am more than pleased with the *CURIOSITY WORLD* as an advertising medium. Our exchange notice has brought us in over forty answers in less than ten days, from all parts of the U. S., and Canada, and still they are coming." Frank M. Davis, 404 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis.

An Englishman recently enquired at the post office for a letter for "Enery Hogden." He was told there was none, where upon he exclaimed: "Look 'err, you 'ave hexamined a hodd letter for my name. It don't commence with a haitch; it begins with a ho! Look in the 'ole that's got the 'hos."

The second edition of Davie's "Egg Check List and Key to the Nests and Eggs of North American Birds" is a book of 184 pages with seven full page engravings and will delight the heart of every collector of Bird's Eggs. Nearly 800 species of birds are correctly named and numbered, and general descriptions of both birds and eggs are given. Price, Post free, \$1. Address this office.

We have just received from George R. Merrill, 68 Williams Ave., Detroit, Mich., a neat little book entitled "Technical Terms and Definitions of Coins and Medals, together with a list of Premiums offered for U. S. Copper Coins." It is sold for only 10 cents and everyone in general and Numismatists in particular should possess a copy.

On April 21st, Mr. C. H. Nunn, publisher of the Foreign Stamp Collectors' Journal, of Bury, S. Edmunds, England, was united in marriage to Miss Annie V. Andrews, daughter of Councillor F. C. Andrews, of Bury. Poor Nunn! He has our heartfelt sympathy. He is old enough, big enough and should have known better, but we pity him, just the same.

Every stamp collector should have a complete file of the "National Philatelist." It was published by the National Philatelic Society of New York in 1884, and contains more than 200 pages of interesting Philatelic literature. We have purchased all the complete files in the hands of the publishers, and will sell them for 55 cents per vol, post free. Address this office.

AMONG THE SOCIETIE.

There were not enough members of the New England Philatelic Union present at the meeting of May 21st, for a quorum, consequently there was no meeting. We have received notice of the death of Fred A. Noyes, of Boston, one of our charter members. JOHN M. HUBBARD, Sec.

CHARLESTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There was no meeting held on May 2nd on account of a very small attendance. A meeting was held May 16th at 8 o'clock p. m. Very few members were present. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. A very interesting paper on the stamps of Mexico was read. There were 2 collections on exhibition. No business of importance was transacted. The following were received since last meeting: The Philatelic Journal of America, Philatelic World, *CURIOSITY WORLD*, Philatelic Monthly and Philatelic Fortnightly. Meeting adjourned at 9 p. m. Next meeting to be held May 30th at 8 o'clock p. m. G. J. LUHN JR., Sec.

THE CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Regular meeting held Thursday evening June 2nd at the Tremont House; the President in the chair. Messrs. Bradt,

Clark, Drury, Gadsden, Gilbert, Haskell, Poltford, Heuer, Mitchell, Pierce, Voute, Wilson and Wolsieffer were present. Various committee reports were received which was a resolution from the Q. C. P. S., in relation to the invention of the adhesive stamp, which was laid on the table.

The following resolution was read: Whereas: Certain reports have been circulated concerning the President, Vice President and Secretary and also of the Official Journal of this Society, which reports, if true, tend to show that said officers and Official Journal have so far usurped their positions as to attempt to manage the affairs of the Society in such a manner as to promote their individual ends regardless of the welfare of the Society, or which if false would indicate a spirit of malice in the person or persons having caused such reports to be circulated, therefore be it

Resolved: That it is the sense of the Chicago Philatelic Society, in regular session assembled, that the President, Vice President, Secretary and Official Journal have in no way conducted themselves contrary to the wishes of the Society; but that in all respects they have fairly represented the same and are entitled to the thanks of the Society for their untiring efforts in making it the successful organization that it is. But that the spirit which prompted the circulation of the untrue and unfounded reports before alluded to is much to be regretted and that their originator, if found to be a member of this Society, shall be called upon to answer charges of malicious and unbecoming conduct, and be it further

Resolved: That these resolutions be printed in the Official Journal of the Society, and that a copy thereof be forwarded to the Philatelic Press and Societies.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Clark, the ayes and nays having been called for, so that the vote of each member should be a matter of record, the resolutions were adopted by the unanimous vote of the Society. After transacting some further business and holding the auction sale, the meeting adjourned. Next meeting, June 16.

C. R. GADSDEN, Sec.

POMEROY SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of the Pomeroy Society was held on the fifth of May, the officers elected for the ensuing year were

President, C. N. Bishop;
Vice " M. Loenshal;
Secretary, E. D. Kline;
Treasurer, J. M. Krumm;
Librarian, Asa S. Parker.

Executive Com. (M. Jungbluth,
Wm. Eberth,
F. B. Stebbins.

The stamps ordered from the Hawaiian Government were received and distributed. An interesting letter from Dr. Mitchell was read regarding the "Pomeroy" stamp and thanks expressed to him for the interest taken by him in this Local. The balance of the evening was taken up in a social way.

The second meeting of the month was held on May 19th and proved a very interesting one. Some time since the Society decided to insert in our albums a blank page to be called the "Jubilee Page." In the centre of this page we are to put the photograph of Queen Victoria and around it the Jubilee set of Great Britain. Our honorary member, Mr. P. Chalmers, hearing of this desired to present to the Society an unused set of these stamps for each member, which he enclosed to us as his Jubilee offering to the Pomeroy Society. This kind act on the part of Mr. Chalmers was a most agreeable surprise to us and our Jubilee page will always have associated with it the memory of Mr. Chalmers. A letter was read from Mr. J. M. Sheridan of Brooklyn, N. Y., in which he expressed a desire to join the Pomeroyists. As Mr. Sheridan is a member of the American Association, it was agreed to admit him on payment of dues. The executive committee informed the Society that the funds on hand were larger than any need for and recommended that a dividend be declared. After discussion the secretary was instructed to ascertain what set of new issues he could obtain that would come within the limits of the amount of dividend declared and to purchase for each member a complete set, the same to be given as our first dividend. Dr. Jungbluth favored the Society with an interesting history of the old post routes of Thurn and Taxis. Addresses having been received of several members of the Dresden Society now in foreign countries, the German members of our Society were instructed to correspond with them for our mutual benefit. After passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Starling for catalogue received and a little social talk, the meeting adjourned.

E. D. KLINE, Sec.

Toledo, Ohio, May 20, 1887.

10 Cents pays for a Spicy Paper 6 months. THE GEM, Box 34, Logansville, Ohio.

AUTOGRAPHS for sale at very low prices. Send for list. W. H. DANFORTH, Worcester, Mass.

YOUR name on 12 Fine Heavy Bevel Edge Cards, 10 c. Name hid by flowers and mottoes. Outfit 4c. F. Knittel, Jr., 3,823 S. Jeff Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

DOCUMENT, match and medicine stamps on approval to responsible parties. L. A. JUDKINS, Claremont, N. H.

SUBscribe for the "Gossip"—the new stamp and coin journal, 25 cents per year: a large 8 page 24 column paper; send for sample copy. Trial adv. 25 cents. Gossip Pub. Co., Box 424, Ottawa, Ont.

BLACK Hills Minerals. BAD Land's Fossils. STOUX Indian Relics. 3,000 Oregon Bird Arrow Heads. Illus Catalogue. L. W. STILLWELL, Deadwood, D. T.

GREAT Curiosity in the world. Perpetual Calendar, good for 100 years. Size of a silver dollar, to be carried in the vest pocket. Price 20 cents in stamps. F. HAINES, Biddeford, Me.

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The 1870 Issue of U. S. Adhesives.

BY B. S. MONROE.

In the year 1870 the many postmasters of the United States received a circular from the Post Office Dept., dated Apr. 9th of that year, announcing a new series of postage stamps.

This series has outlived all its predecessors by about seven years and of some, more than that. The first issue of stamps made by the general government was in 1847. In 1851 they were succeeded by a new issue which lasted nearly ten years, or until the series of 1861 came into use.

Eight years later the 1869 issue was announced. This issue was suppressed within one year, when the issue of which I write was announced by the circular in question. This circular gave to the postmasters a description of the series, which is now over seventeen years old. The subjects on the various stamps of this issue show well the skill of the one who chose them.

The imperial ultra-marine blue of the one cent stamp with the benign face of Franklin in striking outlines thereon, portrays to us the zeal of the postal officials to keep before the people of the Union the well-known face of the first deputy postmaster-general this country ever had. This respect to Benjamin Franklin's memory. The bust on this stamp is after Rubrecht. The only reason I could ever see, and I have thought a great deal about it, for placing Franklin's face on the one cent stamp was because a stamp of that value would probably be used more than any other and thus more people would see them.

I can see no special reason why Andrew Jackson's determined profile should adorn the velvet-brown of the two cent stamp; neither do I see any reason why there should be two colors of this stamp.

The steadfast face of the first president on the three "center" attracts our attention very little, since his manly profile appears on stamps issued both before and since 1870. The exact color of this stamp is milori-green and the bust is after Houdon.

Next to Washington, in one sense of the word, came Lincoln, and so it does on the postage stamps. His strong profile after Volk on the cochineal-red of the six cent stamp reminds us for an instant only of the manly and noble traits of the martyred president. There are several varieties of this stamp.

The circular, strange to say, says nothing about the seven cent stamp. Nevertheless we know there is one and consequently I will give a description of it. Its color is deep vermilion and on it we see the face of Edwin M. Stanton, Lincoln's Secretary of War. It is a fine specimen of workmanship and gives credit to the engraver. It ranks next to the twenty-four cent stamp in rarity.

The curly locks of Jefferson, with his womanly face make a beautiful profile for the ten cent stamp. There are two varieties of this stamp, one a dark and one a light brown. The original color, according to the circular was chocolate. The profile was after Power's statue.

The bust of Henry Clay after Hart, appears on the homely-colored twelve cent stamp. Neutral-tint or purple signifies justice and Clay as a lover of justice was placed on this stamp. There are said to be two shades of purple in different varieties of this stamp.

Webster facing is seen on the fifteen cent stamp. Of these stamps, I have often noticed several distinct varieties. The first one I remember seeing was almost a bright red, while those I have received since vary from orange to vermilion, and some are a dark red.

The twenty-four cent stamp, portrait of Scott, like department stamps has steadily grown rarer since 1880 and now has the honor of being the rarest of the issue. The color is pure purple, instead of violet as most catalogues chronicle.

The thirty cent of this issue is about as nice as any of the American Stamps. On it is the head of Hamilton to the left after Cerrachi. Its color is black while the white of the paper mixed in, shows an elegant contrast.

Lastly comes the classic outline of Commodore Oliver H. Perry's comely features, on the Oliver H. Perry and neat carmine of the ninety cent stamp. The few stamps of this value that I have seen are all one color, but I have heard of two or three varieties. This stamp with a bust after Wolcott's statue, though of higher value, is more common than the twenty-four cent.

With the ninety cent stamp the issue closes. No complete series has been issued since 1870, though several stamps of various values have been issued to correspond with reductions in postage, etc. Here I will close with one characteristic of the 1870 stamp issue: On all the stamps of this issue the words "United States Postage" in full do not occur once, being abbreviated "U. S. Postage."

Heligoland and its Stamps.

BY G. P. COFFIN.

There are few people on this side of the Atlantic, except philatelists, who ever heard of the country of Heligoland. The reason of this is because it is so small, yet this is somewhat larger than the steamship "Great Eastern," of which we have all heard. Heligoland is a triangular island, one mile long, one-third mile wide and contains about 200 acres. It is situated in the German ocean, about 25 miles from the coast of Holland and about the same distance from the mouth of the Elbe river. Or to be more exact, it is located in 54° 11' 46" North Latitude and 7° 53' 12" E. Longitude.

The country is barren and the inhabitants support themselves by fishing and piloting. There is a population of 2800 and not an eighth part of the country is settled. Although the island has been in the possession of the English since 1807 there are almost no English residents except the governor and other rulers.

Heligoland was originally inhabited by the Frisii. The existing natives speak the language of the old Friesland-ers, whose customs, manners and dress they have also retained with slight modifications. The word Heligoland is derived from two Friesic meaning holy land. This was because on the island a temple to the Friesic god Poseidon. This temple was destroyed in the eighth century, when the inhabitants embraced Christianity.

The place is also called the "Enchanted Isle." This country has been ruled in the following manner during the last four centuries. In the fifteenth century the free city of Hamburg exercised a protectorate over Heligoland. This is one of the cases now cited to show that it was formerly a German possession and ought to revert again to that state. But the validity of the claim is entirely destroyed by the circumstance that the Hamburgers' title to Heligoland was due to its revenue having been mortgaged to them by the King of Denmark. As soon as the debt was paid, entire power was reasserted by the king and acknowledged by Hamburg. Toward the end of that century the merchants of Bremen erected establishments for curing fish and selling goods. This was doubtless done by authority of the ruler. It is known that in 1490 William of Schleswig had a custom house on the island. This indicates that it was becoming a place of some importance for the purpose of trade. In 1544 the separation of Schleswig and Holstein took place and a dispute arose as to which should possess Heligoland. Although the Schleswigers continued to exercise authority in the island, the question of ownership remained unsettled. This matter, however received a forcible solution in 1714 when the Danes took possession of it. Its connection with Denmark until then had been merely nominal being due to the fact of the Danish king having been also the Grand Duke of Schleswig.

One of the penalties paid by Denmark for siding with France, was to be compelled in 1807 to surrender not only her fleet, but also the island of Heligoland to England. It was then fortified and garrisoned and converted into a very useful and commanding war station. When the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1814, the formal cession of this island was completed. For eighty years it has continued to be a British possession without a single serious protest being uttered by the inhabitants against the rule of the stranger. Having given the principal points in its political history I will now endeavor to give a few points in its Philatelic history. The first stamps were issued in 1867, since which time 27 varieties have been issued. All the stamps until 1876 were of two colors, red and green.

The stamps of the 1867 issue bear the embossed head of Queen Victoria in red rectangle. Around the head and touching the edge of the rectangle is a white line. The lettering is white on green rectangular blocks and "Heligoland" is on each side and the value is at the top and bottom. These were rouletted. The values are 1-2, 1, 2, and 6 schillings. In 1869 the 1-2 schilling was issued perforated, followed in 1871 by the 1, and in 1873 by the 6 schilling, all perforated. In 1873, four more stamps of the same design were issued. The values are, 1-4, 3-4, and 1-2 Schilling. There were two varieties of the 1-4 Schilling, one having red centre and green border and the other having green centre and red border. The 3-4 Schilling had sides and centre red and top and bottom green. The 1-2 Schilling has the head in red oval, inside of white rectangle. In 1875, six more values were issued, containing head in green oval, surrounded by name and value. In these and all subsequent issues the value is in two denominations, farthings and pfennige. The values of these stamps are 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 and 50 pfennige. In 1876

two more stamps of different design were issued, containing the arms in oval inside



of rectangle. The values are 3, and 20 pfennig, colors green, red and yellow. In 1879, two more were issued, containing numeral and crown in oval. The values are 1 and 5 marks. Colors, the 1 mark, is green, red and yellow and the 5 marks green, red, black and yellow. These were the last adhesives issued.

ENVELOPES. Envelope stamps were first issued in 1875, when the 10 pfennige made its appearance. It is of the same design as the 1875 issue of adhesives. In 1879 this envelope stamp was surcharged "20" pfennige.

BANDS. In 1878, three newsbands were issued, containing the arms of the country, "Heligoland" above in semicircle, value below on scroll. The values and colors were: 3 pfennige (2 farthings), green.

5 " (3 ") red-brown.
10 " (1-2 pence) blue.

Used stamps of this country are scarce.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.
CANADA.—The wrappers now bear a stamp of the type lately described for post cards.

COCHIN CHINA.—We have the 25c. black on flesh, of France, surcharged for this colony.

GAMBIA.—Changes in the color of several of the stamps have been made as follows: 1-2d, green, 1d, carmine and 2d, orange.

MADAGASCAR.—The following values form the complete set of the current issue of Madagascar: 1, 1 1-2, 2, 3, 4, 4 1-2, 6, 8 and 9 pence; 1 shilling, 1 shilling and 6 pence and 2 shillings, all black and red.

NEW REPUBLIC.—A correspondent in South Africa writes us that he has seen a stamped envelope of the new Republic and that it is likely they can be had of any value or size one chooses to pay for.

NORTH BORNEO.—A new value, 3 cents purple, has come to hand.

NORWAY.—The 10 ore card has appeared with the same frame as the 5 ore lately described.

PARAGUAY.—Le Timbre poste mentions a new type of 5 centavos, blue, having the arms in an oval at the top, numeral below and "Paraguay" at the bottom.

PORTUGAL.—Letter cards are said to have been issued of the value of 25 reis, bistre on buff, and 50 reis dark blue on blue.

SAINT LUCIA.—The 6 pence, lilac, of the new type, is now in use.

SAMOA.—There is said to be a 2 shilling and 6 pence stamp in the new set; color violet, but we have not yet seen it.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Stamps of the value of 10 shillings, blue, £3, green and £10 orange are said to have been issued.

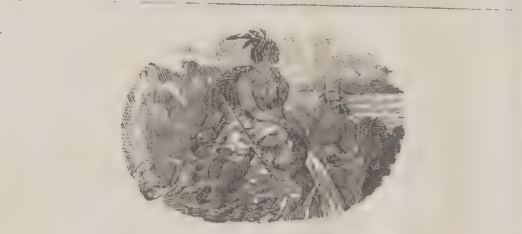
SWEDEN.—We have the 50 ore, of the current issue with posthorn surcharged on the back.

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Probably nearly every one in the United States knows that there are many coins in circulation that are worth much more than their face value, but they wouldn't know them if they should meet them in the middle of the street. We have issued a Premium Coin List, containing 94 illustrations, and giving our buying prices for every U. S. coin worth over face value. Every one who handles money should possess a copy. Price, 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents, post free. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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Mineralogical Wonders.

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

Nature is a store-house of wonders. Its supply will always exceed the demand. The diversity and excellence of original ideas solidly expressed, is not lost even though expressed in wonderful but seemingly useless materials of a once complete creation. Man creates nothing original; designs nothing but what has been designed before. In all his works Man is but an imitator. It seems utterly impossible to conceive of a person, who, when fully realizing the immensity of some of the most wonderful of wonders illustrated in the various departments of Natural Science, being so impassive to the Supreme intelligence depicted therein, as not to consider them as special products of a Creator; a Creator both Omnipotent and Omniscient. The examples of "perfection itself" are found only in these products.

There are, among the least known of Nature's productions, examples of consistency only realized to our conceptions by comparison of our ideas of consistency, with our knowledge of consistency founded on Natural inference.

For the consideration of Mineralogical Wonders, it is only necessary to make a few individual efforts, and a small outlay to purchase the few necessary requisites, to receive the lessons as it is related.

Let us take for an example of what constitutes a Mineralogical wonder, a seemingly uninviting appearing specimen of an ordinary substance. The lessons derivable from this selected specimen do not exceed those of any other. They will all, when thus interrogated, give equally interesting material for thought.

There is, occurring in quantities in numerous localities, a white, peculiarly compact mineral, that is most familiarly known as "foam of the sea." The Mineralogical name is compounded with two different compounds of the same Element. MAGNESITE as this mineral is called, may be applied to both Carbonates and siliceous compounds of Magnesium; but it should be applied only to the Carbonate. The varieties that have been included under the term of Magnesite are Sepeolites or Meer-schaum, Breunerite and Giobertite. The composition of Magnesite is somewhat different from the manufactured Magnesium Carbonate, and contains more of the Carbonate as the formula show.

Precipitated Magnesium Carbonate is
 $4 \text{ Mg } \text{C O}_3 \cdot \text{Mg } (\text{H O})_2$
 Native Magnesium Carbonate is
 $\text{Mg } \text{C O}_3$

The three elements that the last formula calls to our attention, are very abundant in Nature. They differ very widely, one from the other, and are combined producing still a different, but compound body. The O_3 stands for a gas, which, in its free state is the ruler of the animated creation. The C stands for a substance with which we are familiar as charcoal. In this white Mineral one fails to see where the charcoal comes in; but, as the peculiarity of the power of what chemical combination will do becomes apparent, you can easier reconcile your ideas to the combination.

Our last element in this construction not yet troubled is Mg or Magnesium.* This is a beautiful silvery metal, standing between tin and zinc in resemblance. It is exceedingly light, brilliant, perfectly ductile malleable. Does not tarnish easily. This metal was discovered in 1808 by Sir Humphrey Davy. Until recently it has been quite expensive, as the element Sodium, used in its isolation has been comparatively expensive. But of late the mode of manipulation has been so altered as to quite materially affect the price of the metal and is so low, that every collector can have specimens of it. When a piece of this peculiar metal is held to a lighted match it ignites, and burns with an intensely brilliant flame. The brilliancy rivals that of an electric light and is truly magnificent.

*I shall be pleased to send the readers of this paper with strips of this metal for only 12 cents. W. S. Beekman, West Medford, Mass.

The Edible Birds' Nests.

BY EDWARD P. NEWCOMER.

What is known as the edible birds' nest is the nest of the sea swallow of the Malay archipelago, called Lawit in Java and Salangane in the Philippines. The bird is uniformly dark-colored inclining to green at the back and blue on the breast, has a strong, short bill and is a little smaller than our swallow martin.

It gathers from the coral rocks of the sea a glutinous weed which it swallows and afterwards disgorges and then applies with its plastic bill to the sides of deep caverns, both inland and on the sea, to form its nest. When finished and complete the nest is a hollow hemisphere about the size of an ordinary coffee cup. When freshly made it is of a waxy whiteness and is then esteemed most valuable; of second quality when the bird has laid her eggs and of third when the young are fledged and flown.

The lawit frequents mostly the deep, surf-beaten caves of the southern coast of Java. These caves open at the base of a perpendicular face of rock nearly 500 feet high, the mouth being from 18 to 25 feet in breadth and 80 feet in height; within they continue to expand until they attain the dimensions of 100 to 120 feet in width and 450 feet in height and for many hundred feet within the waves break with terrific fury.

The collectors of nests are lowered over these fearful chasms and move along a slippery foothold at a risk of instant destruction. The collections take place during the months of April, August and December. These nests are also obtained in other parts of Java and the islands eastward, on the coast of Borneo and in the limestone caves of the Philippines.

The whole product of Java and the Netherland Indies is from 40 to 50 thousand pounds annually and worth from \$5 to \$35 a pound, while some of the finer sorts sell in the Chinese markets for twice their weight in silver. It is well known that this edible nest is a whimsical culinary fancy of the Chinese alone and they use it in the preparation of their most refined soups. They attribute to it peculiar strengthening qualities and they prize it for its alleged properties as an aphrodisiac.

Shell Marble.

BY F. K. ROME.

Shell marble is a showy and very hard mineral, somewhat resembling a species of granite. It is found in quantities in connection with limestone in Columbia county, New York state and also in eastern Kentucky and parts of Missouri. It is called shell marble from the fact that imbedded in it are found all sorts and shapes of shells undoubtedly formed thousands of years ago and oftentimes fossils and is therefore greatly sought after by collectors for their cabinets. When polished it makes a very pretty appearance and is used for tombstones and fancy trimmings for residences. The quarries in Columbia county have been worked many years and are practically inexhaustible.

Reptilian Oology.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

In this paper I will endeavor to describe the breeding habits of northern Indianan tortoise.

The term "tortoise" is often used synonymously with "turtle," but incorrectly; for the tortoise are a land species, while turtles are marine. The sex of the specimens described may be told by observing the plastron. It is convex in the female and concave in the male. The "snapper" is the only one used for food. Their food consists of mushrooms, soft vegetation, insects, birds and frogs. They are very tenacious of life and appear full of life after their head has been severed twenty-four hours. It has also been proved by inscriptions or dates engraved on their carapaces.

The surest way to obtain their eggs is to watch for the females about May 30th and dissect them, thereby getting a full set of well identified specimens. In this way I obtained nearly all my specimens. The largest of this family is the Snapping Tortoise, [*Chelydra serpentina*]. Its nest is placed in sandbanks. They are scooped out by the female who all the while performs a dizzy waltz. The eggs are of a white color, spherical in shape and like all tortoises, the shell is a tough, leathery substance. This family varies in size from six inches to two feet.

The second member of this family is the Box Tortoise, [*Cistudo virginiana*]. It is the most beautiful of all. It derives its name from the peculiar way which its plastron is formed, it being hinged in the middle thereby enabling it to open and close at will. I have never found a nest of this species, but authorities say that the nest is placed in decayed vegetable matter and sand.

The last, the Red Terrapin is an abundant resident and the smallest. If, when walking past a pond in summer your eye should chance to light on a log in the water you will see three or four terrapins on it. But on a treacherous movement of yours they disappear from sight. It lays its eggs by the 10th of June. They are deposited in ploughed fields, decayed vegetation and in sand. In shape they resemble the Box Tortoise but are smaller. The set varies from seven to fourteen.

When dissecting any of these for eggs, you can not help observing peculiar muscles along the back of the carapace. They are the ones that move the neck. When dried the shell is capable of producing musical sounds, thus giving rise to the poetical legend of the origin of the lyre. The heat of the sun hatches out all of the eggs and it is remarkable how much instinct the young tortoises have for finding water.

Notes on Some Kentucky Birds.

BY L. O. PINDAR.

CYANOCHITA CRISTATA. The blue jay or "jay bird" is perhaps too well known to be written about but I will try and tell my readers some things which even if not new may be of interest to them.

Did you ever notice how many different notes the blue jay has? Let us name some of them. Kay, kay-kay, deedle, deedle-dee, wheedle-dee, yeedle-yeedle-yeedle. Well, that is not all of them by any means, but it will do for this time.

From careful observation I have concluded that the blue jay does more harm than good. He breaks up birds' nests and sucks the eggs; this would decide any bird lover against him. He is a great fruit eater; he eats corn in the fall when it is ripe and will also sometimes eat it as it is planted. To be sure he destroys insects but not to any great extent. So, as I said above I have decided against him. When on the food subject I will say that in the winter I have seen a jay eating snow, probably to quench thirst as all the creeks were frozen over.

Some say the jay never builds a nest but uses old ones of other birds and others say it lays its eggs in nests to be hatched by the owners of the nests, like the cowbird. But this is a mistake for I have seen the jay build a nest many a time. This nest is a bulky structure, made of sticks, leaves, fine rootlets and often mud and feathers. They build in any kind of a tree generally near the trunk and at various heights. The eggs vary in markings as is usual in this family. Out of fifteen eggs before me twelve are drab-colored with purplish-black markings. The other three have a green ground with the same markings. I have taken eggs after incubation began, as early as April 14th and fresh eggs May 8th.

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 And, if by chance, he does neglect you,
 Come back to me and I'll protect you."

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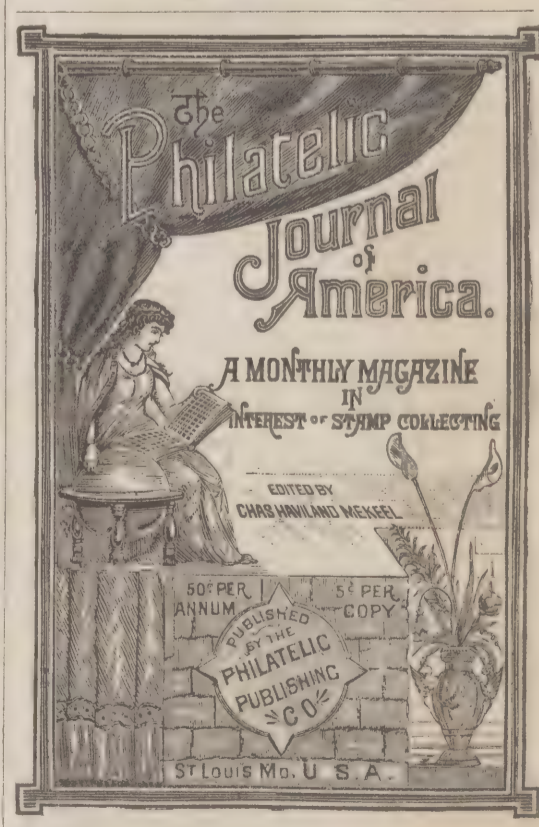
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PATRICK HENRY.

BY THERON BROWN.

At daybreak, in old Congress Hall,
The council heard a footstep fall,
When flashed the signal round the door,
"The three have entered! Shut the door!"

To Hancock, silent in his chair,
To fifty patriots listening there,
A voice that never shook with dread,
The mighty Declaration read.

All night, that dauntless speech to pen
Hail'd those stern committee men;
The audience felt its awful weight—
And then began the great debate.

Dared one that morning's mood to mock
With talk of prison, gibbet, block?
Tall Henry stood in righteous ire
To shame the hint with words of fire.

"Let crowned oppression for our sake
Of every rock a scaffold make,
And all our homes to ruin give,<
That Declaration still shall live.

"Its voice shall cry when we are dust,
"There are no slaves since God is just";
Its lines shall tyrant's hearts appal
Like lightnings on Belsazzar's wall.

"Down, monarchs, from your empire hurled,
You purpled hangmen of the world!
For you, at last, man's wrath and rod,
For you, the thunderbolts of God.

"Shall we, when Liberty invites,
Disown our manifest rights,
And, faithless, to its solemn claims
Like cowards shrink to pledge our names?"

"No, patriots, seal your sacred vow,
Complete the proud deliverance now,
And on this glorious parchment trace
Hope's message to the human race.

"Sign! for the hearts your manhood shields;
Sign! for the dead on valor's fields;
And tell the millions yet to be
God gave our country to be free."

They signed; and still, in witness grand,
The fifty-six immortal stand
By the bold instrument that woke
Ten thousand swords when Henry spoke.

And still in legend's echoes, live
Those words historians could not give
Of him whose heart and tongue of flame
Are deathless as our nation's fame.

For through the record's stinted lines,
His soul, a quenchless lightning, shines;
And long in freedom's bells will ring
Th' unwritten Voice that smote a king.

Yonks's Companion.

The Thurn and Taxis Postal System and Postage Stamps.

Read before the Pomeroy Philatelic Society of Toledo, O., by Dr. M. Jungbluth.

One of the most interesting studies for the Philatelist in pursuit of his partiality for collecting postage stamps, and one with which he can hardly dispense if he regards Philately as what it actually is, or at least ought to be,—is the history of the development of the mail systems. In this history there is one page especially, that illustrates more than any other the absolute necessity of such knowledge: that is the development of the Thurn and Taxis postal system, whose history is closely connected with that of all systems on our globe.

The service, which the Thurn and Taxis family has rendered to the civilized world can never be too highly appreciated, for to this family we are indebted for the establishment of the first regular postal service in the modern sense of the word; every former institution of this kind was hampered because each was more of a private than a public nature. Were it not for the enterprise of one of the members of the house of Thurn and Taxis, it is questionable at least, whether even in our day there would be known anything like the science of Philately.

Before going further with this subject, and in order to secure a better view of the entire field, it will be advisable for us to take a short retrospect of the history of these institutions.

The first traces of the institution of a postal service, which, in the course of time has developed as the prime factor in facilitating the intellectual and material intercourse of all nations of the entire globe, are to be found in the most remote antiquity known to history. The occasional passages on this subject in the writings of Herodotus, Xenophon, Diodorus, Julius Caesar, Livius Suetonius and others furnish unmistakable proof of this assertion. Thus the postal messengers employed by Cyrus and Darius were regular mounted state couriers, which went day and night with extraordinary speed, the same as up to this very day to certain extent the Post-tartars of the Sultan of Turkey and of the Emperor of China. A similar institution, organized on quite a large scale, was the Cursus publicus of the Romans, but in the Roman empire the maintenance of intellectual communication at a distance was also like elsewhere extremely defective, as may be learned from several passages in the letters of Cicero to Atticus.

Of a character similar to the above-mentioned postal system were the state messenger institutions of Charlemagne and those of the Moorish kings in Spain, as also those of the order of German Knights of Prussia and of the regular messenger service introduced in the thirteenth century by the Hanseatic league throughout the commercial world, as also the messenger institutions of the so called Suabian Confederation, of the Universities in France and Germany, etc., but all these

various modes of postal communications suffered from serious defects: all served special purposes instead of the public welfare. They were calculated either solely for the affairs of the government or the ruling parties, or were servicable in the interest of limited classes of the population. Even the stage-coach mail, (Fahrpost) established towards the end of the 15th century between Hamburg and Nuremberg can only be considered as an institution of the latter class, i. e., as an institution for the benefit of the mercantile classes only. According to the foregoing it is out of the question that a system of postal service in our sense of the word, that is as a public institution for facilitating universal intellectual and commercial intercourse did not exist before the commencement of the 16th century.

A new epoch in the sphere of postal service began with the year 1516, when a certain Francis de Thurn and Taxis was authorized by Emperor Maximilian I, to establish Imperial posts for the benefit of the general public.

The Thurn and Taxis family originated in the district of Milan in Italy. History tells that one with that name, Martin della Torre, while on a crusade in Palestine was captured by the Saracens and died in 1147 in captivity; also that the della Torre were for a length of time the rulers in Milan, Italy. One of the family, Lamoral della Torre, settled 1313 in the district of Bergamo and called himself after the "Tasso" (Taxis) mountain, (Badger mountain), del Tasso; later, de Taxis. His son was the Francis de Thurn and Taxis before mentioned. After a lengthy struggle with many obstacles and deep-rooted prejudices, he succeeded in brilliantly realizing his project and founding the splendor and wealth of his house.

The first real mail or postal system was established between Vienna and Brussels in the year 1516. How difficult such an undertaking was at that period, we learn from Beust's work: "On the German Postal Privilege" (Jena, 1872), he says: "Everybody considered an establishment of this kind dubious, and no one could imagine how the letters and articles of merchandise would yield enough profit to defray the expenses of horses, wagons, postillions and other post officials. However, as soon as the merchants became aware that they could have the benefit of this system, the course of exchange and the price of all merchandise with so little expense and without being compelled to undertake long journeys on that account, innumerable letters accumulated at these Thurn and Taxis post offices. In 1595, Leonard of Thurn and Taxis, whose predecessors had only been Postmasters General of the Burgundy Netherlands, was appointed Imperial Postmaster General by Rudolph II, Emperor of Germany and Emperor Matthias bestowed upon Lamoral of Thurn and Taxis and his descendants the office of Postmaster General of the whole Empire. After the heads of the house of Thurn and Taxis had received in 1605 the title of Baronet and in 1621 that of Count, the princely title was conferred upon them in 1681 and 1686.

Gradually a network of postal institutions of similar kind spread over all the provinces of the Empire.

In the other European states the postal service system was for some time still very defective. During the reign of Elizabeth no public postal institutions had yet been established in England and it was only under Charles I, in the year 1635 that they were introduced. In France we meet with a postal system similar to that of the present day, somewhat earlier than in England, it being established in 1622, about one century later than in Germany. Here, as well as in Great Britain the posts were at first leased, which arrangement was not abolished until towards the end of the 18th century. Owing to the characteristic conservatism of its people, England remained far behind in postal development during the first decade of the 19th century; and yet it was from Great Britain that the first idea of an improvement of the postal system was to emanate one, in the beginning trivial, but in time wide-reaching in its effects: the invention of adhesive postage stamps. Up to the present time said invention was ascribed to the Englishman Rowland Hill, yet later, and as it seems, more careful investigations in regard to this point seem to show clearly that it originated with James Chalmers and that the influential Hill after having obtained knowledge of the invention, not only appropriated it, but zealous-

ly as well as successfully advocated its introduction in the British Parliament.

(To be continued.)

Pricing Stamps.

BY X. Y. Z.

One of the hardest tasks that stamp dealers have to do is to mark stamps to suit their customers. I received a sheet of stamps not long ago containing a "Gautemala 1882, 5 centavos, red and green, used," marked 5c. I looked in a certain catalogue and found it priced at 2c. And this is the way it was with nearly every stamp on the sheet and though the dealer offered me 30 per cent. commission, I could not sell any or take any myself, because each stamp was marked at about twice its real value. I returned the sheet to the dealer and told him that on account of his high prices I could not take any of his stamps. He wrote me a very polite letter stating that he marked his stamps at "Standard Catalogue" prices. But my catalogue was a "Standard" too, but of course not issued by the same firm.

How shall we mark our stamps? I think dealers should have two catalogues and add the different prices of a certain stamp and divide by two. For instance take a stamp priced 4c. by one catalogue and 6c. by another, that stamp should be marked 5c. on a sheet. Those who only have one catalogue had better mark their stamps one or two cents below catalogue prices than one or two cents above. I believe it pays better every time.

"Well," you will say, "suppose the collector has a catalogue that prices a stamp at 4c. and he should receive a sheet with the same stamp on marked 5c., he would nine times out of ten make a fuss." If the stamp is marked one cent higher than his catalogue prices it, still he will find plenty of stamps marked below his catalogue which will make up for those which he says are marked too high. I think stamps marked by adding the two different prices and dividing by two is on the average as cheap for one collector as another if they have different catalogues.

Dealers! Mark your stamps in this way and allow a liberal commission and I don't think you will have much trouble in selling.

An Extinct Race.

On the banks of the Guyandotte river, West Virginia, toward its head, is a large farm owned by a gentleman named Leitz, writes a New York World correspondent from Parkersburg. On this farm are scattered a number of mounds or tumuli, erected ages ago by a people long since extinct. In each tumulus, on a level with the surrounding country and in the centre of the mound, is a large crypt, which contains the bones of men and women. When discovered a short time since the skeletons were found in great numbers, many of them well preserved from the corroding tooth of time. Some of the bones were of unusual size and great thickness. In the same crypts by the side of the skeletons were many stone hatchets, flint arrow and spear heads and other indications of a primal warlike race. Fragments of pottery of peculiar shape were found lying around. These tumuli had undoubtedly been the burying place of prominent members of the lost race, chiefs, princes or savage potentates. But, strange as was the finding within the mounds, a stranger one lay within a scope of territory surrounding them. Within the space of several acres—say 10 or 12—in the shape of an octagon, the ploughshare had uncovered evidences of a fortification. The outer line had evidently at one time been thrown up by these extinct people as a means of defence from attack by other races of people. Within these walls innumerable pieces of bone, fragments of the skeletons of hundreds of people were found in all attitudes; among and around them spear heads, arrow heads, stone hatchets and other implements were scattered, covered with fragments of a conglomerate stone of a highly silicious character, which has enabled them to resist degradation and removal by water and the levelling powers of atmospheric agencies, otherwise the corroding influence of time would have removed all traces of these people. Outside in either direction lines and piles of bones and instruments of war were found, showing that at one time a fierce battle for existence had occurred—a war of extermination—in which the strange people confined within the stone and earthen battlements had suffered defeat, and that men, women and children had been mercilessly slaughtered.—[Boston Herald.

Colonial Coins.

BY H. J. MIRON.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The first money issued in what is now the United States, was coined in Boston, Mass., in 1652. On the 27th day of May, of that year the Massachusetts General Court passed an Act authorizing a mint to be established in Boston and requiring three denominations of silver pieces to be issued:—twelve-pence, six-pence and three-pence. John Hull of Boston was appointed Mint-master and issued the coins as required by Act of May 27th. The planchets were hammered or rolled out to the required thinness and then cut out round, the letters being all stamped on afterwards with a punch. On one side are the letters "N. E." appearing in relief on a depressed field and on the other the Roman numerals, "XII," "VI," or "III," according to the value of the coin. These coins are very rare at this late date, a fine piece being worth from \$50 to \$100. There are a few counterfeits of these coins but they are rarely met with.

On October 16th, 1652, the General Court being dissatisfied with the coins then in use, passed an Act requiring that the design should be changed so as to have a tree on one side, also the date and appropriate legends. In accordance with this Act, the designs were changed. One variety has a willow tree, another an oak, and the third a pine tree. The Willow tree coins were issued first, there being two values: shilling and sixpence. They were rudely designed, poorly struck and were coined but a short time when they gave way to the

OAK TREE COINAGE.

This design differs from the above in having an oak tree instead of a willow on the obverse. They were coined for about ten years and are of the following values: shilling, sixpence, threepence and twopence.

In 1662 the Pine tree design was first issued and they continued to be struck for twenty years, when their coinage was stopped by the English government. There are three values of the Pine tree money: shillings, sixpences and threepences. Although struck for nearly thirty years, they all bear the date "1652." There are about twenty-five types of the shilling, three of the sixpence and two of the threepence. A Pine Tree Shilling is worth from \$4 to \$20 and the six and threepence, \$5 to \$25 each.

There is also what is supposed to be a pattern piece, called the Good Samaritan Shilling. On the obverse is the scene of the Good Samaritan and the legend, "Masathusets In." On the reverse, "In New England Ano." Otherwise it is the same as the Massachusetts shilling and bears the same date, 1652. One of the pieces sold at auction several years ago, brought \$650.

On October 16th, 1786, the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Massachusetts passed an act for establishing a mint for the coinage of gold, silver and copper coins. On June 27th, 1787 it was decided that the design should consist of "The figure of an Indian with a bow and an arrow, and a star on one side, with the word Commonwealth, on the reverse, a spread eagle, with the word Massachusetts, and date, 1787." Several thousand dollars' worth of cents and half cents were coined during the years 1787 and 1788. A rare variety of the 1787 cent has the olive branch and arrows reversed and is worth in good condition about \$50. There are many other varieties of the cents and half cents, but none of them are out of the reach of the average collector.

Confederate Money.

Since the downfall of the Southern Confederacy Confederate money has been growing more valuable each year, and any one desiring a few specimens should procure them at once. We have a small stock of Confederate bills, which we are selling at 10 cents each, or three varieties for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Hints on Insect Collecting.

There is no branch of Natural History work that offers more attractions to the student than insect collecting. This book contains much valuable information as to the outfit necessary for collecting, the manner of preparing and mounting insects, the preparation of a cabinet, etc., and every collector should possess a copy. The book is recommended by the Agassiz Association and is mentioned in their hand book. Price, 11 cents each, 3 for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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JULY, 1887.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

—OF THE—

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Just think of it! 500 square-cut envelope stamps pays for this paper one year.

E. J. Smith of Portsmouth, Ohio is about to publish the Buckeye State Collector

We will give a new GEM stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

Robert W. Manier, of Binghamton, N. Y., will shortly issue the Philatelic Record, an 8 page monthly devoted exclusively to stamps.

On June 30th Krebs Bros. sold a large lot of stamps at the auction rooms of Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., New York. The catalogue contained 590 lots.

For 500 square-cut envelope stamps we will give a new WORLD stamp album containing space for 2,520 stamps, or, if preferred, a year's subscription to this paper

The name of the Collectors' Companion has been changed to the Collectors' Aid and it will now be published by McBride & Weber, Mr. Wm. Weber having bought out the interest of Mr. Marble.

"Enclosed please find 25 cents for your valuable paper, the CURIOSITY WORLD. Many thanks for the sample copy and I shall do all in my power to circulate it among friends and neighbors." William Carry, 259 Thames St., Newport, R. I.

The Collectors' Aid has suspended and turned over its subscription list to the Collectors' Journal.

One by one new papers are coming,
One by one old journals fall.
Some are coming, some are going,
And we cannot keep track of them all.

President Tiffany has come out with an open letter explaining his relations with Secretary Bradt, Mr. Mekeel and others. Mr. Tiffany is evidently not very much in love with the Chicago members of the Association and never sent a copy to either Mr. Bradt or any of his Chicago friends. That is a lawyer's trick. It is a part of their business to take every advantage they possibly can, but it don't look like the square thing to give a man a blowing up without giving him a chance to defend himself.

Mr. Sterling has remembered us with a copy of the sixth edition of his United States Standard Stamp Catalogue. It describes over 1000 varieties of Adhesives, Envelopes, Wrappers, Letter Sheets, Postal and Metallic Currency, Telegraph and Confederate Stamps etc. No collector should be without a copy. Price, post free, 25 cents. We also have his scale for measuring stamps, which is very handy for collectors. Price, 10 cents. E. B. Sterling, Publisher, Box 294, Trenton, New Jersey.

Editor Fraser has developed into quite a kicker. In the June number of the Figaro he fills up nearly a page and a half denouncing Messrs. Seagrave, Bradt, Kline & Co., and calls our worthy Secretary a "poor deluded (?) crank." If we remember right, Mr. Fraser received the appointment of Official Editor through the efforts of Secretary Bradt, and all the thanks Mr. Bradt gets is a torrent of abuse. We don't believe there was any "plot laid in December, 1886 to kill the American Philatelist." If the paper had come anywhere near the expectations of the members, there would have been no kicking, but they were not satisfied with a "4x6" sheet, and we don't blame them. In the July number of the Stamp, Mr. Fraser devotes a whole column to criticising a five line item that appeared in the Philatelic Monthly several months ago, in regard to the Hill-Chalmers controversy, and says: "No, Mr. Durbin, you are lost: take my advice, and when you want to air your views try and find out what you are talking about." Mr. Durbin forgets more about stamps and philatelic matters, every night, than Editor Fraser and the publishers of the Stamp, all put together, ever knew, and when he wants any advice he will probably ask for it.

The Niagara Falls Philatelist is announced to appear this month.

The Keystone State Philatelist has "gobbled" the Germantown Philatelist.

The July number of the Philatelic Gazette will commence its fourth volume.

"Your Stamp Collectors of the World is the best out. Every collector should have a copy." B. J. Webster, Box 245, Pontiac, Mich.

The March number of the Philatelic Herald has just reached us. Oh, brother Jewett! When will you catch up with the procession?

"I think the CURIOSITY WORLD is the best collector's paper I take and I wish you much success with it." E. P. Newcomer, Decatur, Ill.

On the cover of the July issue of the Western Philatelist are the words, "Official Journal of the American Philatelic Association." It makes the cover look very nicely and we hope it will stay there.

Any of our readers having Connecticut cents for sale should correspond with Dr. Thomas Hall, 46 West Newton St., Boston, Mass. The Doctor has a fine collection and is very desirous of improving it.

Our June number was pretty well sprinkled with typographical errors. We think our readers could make out what was intended, but they made the paper look bad.

The Texas Stamp has suspended, not from lack of support, but because the publisher could not attend to it with his school and other duties. Money will be refunded to subscribers in full.

For only 25 cents we will send post free to any address, one copy each of the "Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and Sell." Every collector should own a set of these books, and now is the time to buy them.

We are informed that Mr. W. F. Fraser ex-Editor of the American Philatelist, has been appointed Editor of the Empire State Philatelist, but as we have not seen a copy of that paper since Mr. Watkins left it, we cannot vouch for the truth of the statement.

"We believe no other journal published really approaches us in quality and number of readers."—[Quaker City Philatelist.

Well, who said there was? The Western Philatelist, Philatelic Journal of America and Empire State Philatelist have never pretended to be your equal, but, as the poet says, "They get there, just the same."

Every stamp collector should have a complete file of the "National Philatelist." It was published by the National Philatelic Society of New York in 1884, and contains more than 200 pages of interesting Philatelic literature. We have purchased all the complete files in the hands of the publishers, and will sell them for 55 cents per vol, post free. Address this office.

We have concluded that it is best for us not to publish a puzzle department any longer. "Moonshine" was very desirous of conducting a puzzle column in our paper, but after doing so for two issues he suddenly stopped. We have written him several times, but can get no explanation. If the majority of our readers desire a puzzle department, we will engage a good editor, one who will attend to his business. If not, we will not try it again.

"The Curiosity World for June seems fit to criticize our editorial in regard to the official journal. While we always like to be fairly criticised, we do not think abuse is a weapon of much weight, in fact, our above-mentioned esteemed contemporary does nothing else. We are undoubtedly very thankful for its kind wishes, but we are sorry not to be able to carry them out. The fact is, the Q. C. P., will be alive and healthy, when the Curiosity World is filling a forgotten and forsaken grave."—[Quaker City Philatelist.

We should think the publishers of the Quaker City Philatelist would talk about "abuse." Anyone to read their editorials about Secretary Bradt would think he had committed an unpardonable sin. The long and short of it is, the publishers of the Q. C. P. are so jealous because Sec. Bradt is a little smarter than they are that, like a drowning man, they clutch at a straw and do their prettiest to make it appear that he is a hard citizen. They have had their labor for their pains, so far. "Wise people change their minds sometimes; fools never do." If Mr. Bradt promised to vote for the Q. C. P., he showed excellent judgment in changing his mind. Wouldn't any member of the Q. C. P. Co. have done the same thing if they had been in Mr. Bradt's place? Certainly they would and if they say they wouldn't they tell an untruth and they know it and so do we. They are the champion kickers from the city of kickers and would have kicked just as hard if the Empire State Philatelist, Plain Talk or the P. J. of A. had been chosen. We don't care a continental what you say about us, but when you come to abuse a man who has done more for the A. P. A. than all of the Philadelphia kickers put together and is as square as a brick and as honest as the day long, it makes us tired.

Subscribe for the WORLD.

The first fire insurance office in the United States was established in Boston in 1724. The first life insurance at Philadelphia in 1812.

The Golden Argosy says the "flying eagle cents of 1856 are quite common." Doubtless they are but we will pay \$2 each for them, just the same.

The Youth's Ledger under the management of Mr. Gustav Aue and the editorship of Mr. Davison is a decided success. We are glad to see its prosperity.

The North American and United States Gazette is the oldest daily paper published in the United States. It was founded in 1771, and is still published in Philadelphia.

The following are the new officers of the Denver Stamp Collectors' League, for the ensuing year: President, D. W. Osgood Jr.; Vice President, F. E. Carstarphen; Secretary, H. A. Babb; Treasurer, J. C. Feldwisch; Librarian, C. B. Lewis.

"Rare American Coins, their Description and past and Present Fictitious Values" is the title of a new book by E. Locke Mason. It contains nearly fifty illustrations and is very interesting and instructive. Price, 25 cents. Address this office.

We have published the article on Butterfly Collecting, by R. A. Meers, which appeared in the Oct., Nov., Dec., and January issues of this paper, in book form. It contains 26 illustrations and much useful information for anyone who collects Butterflies. Price, 10 cents.

Lyman H. Low & Co., of New York, are evidently doing a rushing business. On June 27th they sold the John T. Raymond collection of coins, the catalogue containing 619 lots, and on the 28th they sold the Linderman collection of United States Coins and pattern Pieces, containing 188 lots. The latter was Mr. Low's 17th sale.

The July number of the Quaker City Philatelist contains an interesting article from the pen of Mr. Theodore Siddall in regard to the Hill-Chalmers controversy. Mr. Siddall evidently believes there are two sides to the question and proposes to investigate before he makes up his mind who the inventor really was. That is where his head is level. Patrick Chalmers saying that his father invented the postage stamp, backed up by the Encyclopedia Britannica and Submission of the Sir Rowland Hill Committee does not make it so any more than our saying the "moon is made of green cheese" would make it a fact. We should like to hear Mr. Hill's side of the story and then we might be able to make up our mind who was the real inventor. Until then we "roost on the fence."

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

BAVARIA.—The 10x10 pf., card has the figures "87" at the left.

BOLIVIA.—The 5c, blue and 10c orange envelopes are on amber laid paper. They measure 150x85 mm.

BRITISH GUIANA.—The medallion is omitted from the new cards.

COLOMBIA.—A new card has made its appearance. Value, 2c, black on dark yellow.

DOMINICA.—The color of the 1d, has been changed to carmine.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—The 7c, has been surcharged "1 cent," in black.

LAGOS.—These stamps are now printed in two colors. The value is at the bottom of the stamp in different color.

NEW REPUBLIC.—The date has been omitted and the following values have an embossed coat of arms and name. The 1, 2 and 3d are on blue paper, and the 3 and 4d, are on straw colored paper.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.—The half penny stamp has been surcharged in two lines, "One Penny," in black.

SENEGAL.—The 20c, has been surcharged "15."

SIAM.—A new set has lately been issued as follows: 2a, green and pink, 3a, green and blue, 4a, green and brown, 8a, green and yellow, 12a, lilac and pink, 24a, lilac and blue, 64a, lilac and brown.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—A new card has lately been issued. Value, 3c, blue on buff.

SWEDEN.—The 5 ore of the current issue has the posthorn surcharge on the back.

TIMOR.—The 10 reis, green, of Mozambique has been surcharged "Timor" for use in that country.

UNITED STATES.—The new one cent stamp has appeared. In the centre is a profile bust of Franklin after Caracci, facing to the observer's left in an oval disk, on shaded background. The lower portion of the oval is bordered with pearls. Above, in curved panel, "United States Postage." Below, "One Cent." Color, ultramarine blue.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

CHARLESTON, S. C., SOCIETY.

Meeting of May 30th called at 8 o'clock p. m. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. On motion of the Secretary the sum of \$2. was appropriated for the "History of the Postage Stamps of the United States," by Mr. J. K. Tiffany. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer were combined and Mr. J. H. Klinch, (late Treasurer) was elected Vice President and Librarian. Mr. Patrick Chalmers of Wimbledon, Eng., was elected an honorary member by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 9 o'clock p. m.

There was no business transacted at the meeting of June 13th on account of small attendance. Next meeting to be held June 27th at 8 o'clock p. m.

G. J. LUHN JR., Sec.

JUNIOR SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS.

A meeting was held June 11th at the residence of H. D. Condie for the purpose of organizing a Philatelic Society. The following officers were elected: Prest., A. G. Mucke; Vice Prest., George Stannard; Treas., Samuel Givens; Sec., Librarian, T. Bates Browning.

A meeting was held June 18th at the residence of the President, with Messrs. Mucke, Givens, Browning, Stannard and Condie present. It was voted that the office of Vice Prest. be abolished. Mr. Browning proposed Lawrence Gardner and Harry Rogers for membership and Messrs. Stannard and Condie were appointed for the executive committee. Some trading was done among the members and the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. Browning on July 2nd, at 8 p. m. HERBERT D. CONDIE, Sec.

CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Meeting of June 16th held at the Tremont House, President Bradt in the chair. The following members present: Messrs. Bradford, Bradt, Clark, Drury, Gadsden, Holtfodt, Pierce, Wilson and Wolsieffer. Dr. C. W. Evans was present as a visitor. This being the first time we had the pleasure of meeting our corresponding member, Mr. S. B. Bradford, he was tendered a cordial welcome. The resignation of Mr. Mitchell as treasurer and member was read and referred to the executive committee. The resignation of Mr. H. F. Heuer was read and accepted, with the regrets of the Society. Other communications were read including one from Mr. Pat. Chalmers. On report of the executive committee the resignation of Mr. Mitchell was again taken up and was accepted. Motion prevailed that the Librarian be instructed to place the library in the office of Mr. Pierce in order that it might be accessible to all members; also that current numbers of the various publications received by the Society be so placed without unnecessary delay. Adjourned at 10:00 p. m.

Meeting of June 30th held at the Tremont House the President in the chair. Messrs. Bradt, Clark, Gadsden, Haskell, Holtfodt, Myers, Pierce, Tower, Wilson and Wolsieffer were present. In spite of the extremely warm weather an interesting meeting was held and much business transacted. The resignation of Mr. Voute was read and accepted. An election was held to fill some vacancies that have occurred, with the following result: Treasurer, H. B. Myers; Librarian, G. S. Wilson; members of Executive Committee Messrs. W. J. Clark and L. A. Haskell. Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer was appointed exchange superintendent for the Chicago branch of the A. P. A. Meeting adjourned at 10.10. Next meeting July 14th.

C. R. GADSDEN, Sec.

Those collectors of Stamps, Coins and Indian Relics who wish to dispose of their collections for cash should write to the publisher of this paper.

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FOR Good sheets of stamps send reference to Robt. C. Clark, Price Hill, Cincinnati, O. Com 25 per cent

COINS! 4 U. S. 1-2 cents, 25c. 6 Colonial bills, 50c. U. S. copper coins cheap. Price list free. G. J. Bauer, 73 Front St., Rochester, N. Y.

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RIVAL No. 0, contains 50 var. including Repub. Dominican, U. S. of Columbia, Ecuador, Portugal, Straits Settlements, Guatemala, Virgin Islands, Cape of Good Hope, Trinidad, Mexico, Hawaii, etc. There are no common stamps in this packet. Price 50 cents. Price list on application. F. B. VOILAND, Charlton, Iowa.

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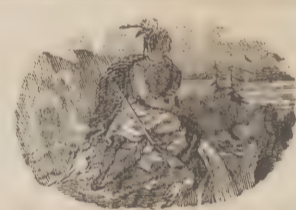


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No. 8. Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia, etc.
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THE CURIOSITY WORLD is an illustrated monthly journal containing four pages, twenty columns, each column about 17 inches long, well filled with interesting matter for all classes of collectors.

THE WORLD is printed on 50 lb., book paper, and contains three times as much interesting reading as the average Stamp or Coin Journal. The proprietor has just purchased a new \$500 printing office—which is pretty good evidence that the WORLD has come to stay—and will hereafter publish the paper himself instead of having the work done in an out of town office. The WORLD is devoted to Stamps, Coins, Eggs, Autographs, Indian Relics and all branches of Natural History. It also has an Exchange department in which exchange notices are inserted for five cents for twenty-four words. The editorial department is under the management of the well known author, Mr. H. J. Miron, and Mr. L. W. Durbin has charge of the department of New Issues, assisted by an able corps of the best writers in the United States and Europe. The WORLD costs but 25 cents per year—12 numbers—but the subscription price will soon be raised to 50 cents per year so all who have not subscribed should take advantage of our present low rates. Our advertising rates are 10 cents per line for one insertion, 30 cents per line for four insertions; \$1 per inch for one insertion, \$8 per inch for four insertions. TERMS: Cash in advance.

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A Ghastly Relic.

A correspondent sends us the following item and vouchers for the truth of the same, being personally acquainted with the family who has possession of the relic and has seen it several times—[Ed.

Near Baldwin's Creek, N. Y., lives a man who has in his possession something that would delight the heart of the relic collector, but would send the cold chills creeping up the back of the non-enthusiast. It is the skull of an Indian with a bullet hole through the forehead.

Shortly after the bloody battle between the Americans under General Sullivan and the Six Nations under Brant in 1779, the ancestors of the present owner of the relic settled down near the scene of that terrible conflict. The history of the skull as told by the owner is, as near as I can remember from hearing it repeated on several occasions as follows:

The skull belonged to one of Brant's bravest warriors, who participated in the Wyoming brutalities, the horrors of the Minnisink and the Cherry Valley massacre. He was the leader of the marauders who murdered the settlers at Harpersfield and burned the settlers' homes. One act at that massacre caused his death a few months later. A son of Cornplanter, a chief who was friendly to the whites, upon hearing that an attack was to be made upon Harpersfield, sent a squaw to warn the settlers. The marauders reached there first and accomplished their fiendish work. They captured the squaw and knowing she was a Cornplanter, suspected her errand. The leader killed her and took her scalp. Young Cornplanter swore vengeance on the murderer of the squaw and his opportunity came when Sullivan was sent into the Susquehanna country against the savages. General Sullivan employed young Cornplanter to precede his army, in the capacity of scout and keep him posted as to the plans, strength and location of the Indians. While on a scout, creeping through the forest near the present village of Wellsburg, he beheld a Seneca Indian slowly stealing along. He hid behind a tree until the other Indian came nearer, when he recognized his old enemy, the murderer of one of the squaws of his tribe. When within a few yards of his hiding place, young Cornplanter fulfilled his oath by putting a bullet through the forehead of the Seneca brave. He then scalped and afterwards buried him. The following day the battle of Baldwin's Creek was fought and the Indians were driven westward.

Several years later young Cornplanter, who was in the far west, decided to make a visit to the scenes of his early days. He was the guest of the grandfather of the present owner of the skull, and while out hunting together, he led him to a secluded spot in the woods and told him that in these same woods he had killed Brant's Indian and had buried him within a few feet of where they were standing. Together they exhumed the mouldering remains of the Seneca brave. The skull was as sound as ever and Cornplanter, no longer the young brave that he was, gave it a spiteful kick and turned from the sickening spectacle. His friend picked it up and carrying it home with him, placed on a tall pole and the bluebirds used it for a nesting-place for years. The present owner takes good care of the skull and values it very highly.

A Friend in Need.

An old hunter relates the following story, which shows pretty conclusively that Foxes have sympathy and respect for each other, if their natural enemy, man, has none for them.

"I have often heard that foxes would help each other out of a bad scrape when it was a possible thing for them to do so, but never saw it, with my own eyes until last autumn. Late in the fall, about Thanksgiving time, I set quite a number of traps for foxes, intending to visit them every day as is my usual custom. Other business demanded my attention, and it was nearly two weeks before I had the opportunity to visit my traps. In the meantime there had been a light fall of snow, and as I approached the vicinity of my traps I noticed large numbers of fox tracks which made me think I was sure of finding a pretty good haul, and I began to think I had done wrong in neglecting them so long and allowing the foxes if any were caught to starve to death, as they would be likely to, in that length of time.

With one exception, the traps were unmolested just where I left them. One trap was missing and in its place were drops of blood on the well-trodden snow, showing that a fox had been captured. Following the trail made by dragging the heavy trap, and occasional drops of blood for a about a quarter of a mile, I discovered my missing trap and a fox therein, held fast by one leg. He was remarkably fresh and lively for one who had been several days without food and had drag-

ged a heavy trap a quarter of a mile, but after ending his misery I discovered the cause of his activity. There were many tracks in the vicinity and within his reach were about two dozen dead mice. His fox friends did their best to liberate him, but finding it a hopeless task caught him enough food so he should not starve."

"Postmaster please to send him straight, Ben-syl-vany is der staight; Ole Venango, dat's der gounty, Vere oil bours out mit Hefen's pounty. Franklin, shis der gounty seat, Der Bost office on Liberdty Shtreet; Sharly Taylor, he's der man, Send dis yust so quick you can."

Slight Variations.

BY H. C. QUINBY.

Whether or not to collect the minute varieties found in so many stamps, is perhaps the question that is perplexing many persons who are starting a collection. The term, "slight variations" includes shades of color, watermark, grilling, difference in perforation, quality of paper and many other little points, the noticing and collecting of which really forms much of the delight of stamp collecting.

First, let us notice some of those varieties in color which are the most common. Take our own country for example: The difference in shade of the one, three and six cent of the 1870 issue. The one cent blue in three distinct shades, as well as two or three grills. Scott's Album, I believe gives places for two shades of two or three of this set, although there are three or four varieties of each. Many of you have noticed in the unpaid letter stamps, that the earlier sets are on yellowish paper, while the present stamps are on white. The three, six and twelve cent War Department exist in much lighter red than the rest of the set. In Belgium the distinct shades of the 10c. green, 1869 issue, are so numerous that everyone has an opportunity of noticing them. The recent green Mexican set exists in yellowish-green as well as bright green, and many others are well worthy of note.

Let us mention a few examples of water-marked varieties. The common British two-pence half-penny blue, 1880 issue, has two kinds, one with a crown, the other with a cross on a globe. The first issue of Jamaica is worth ten times as much with a pineapple water-mark as when it has a crown. But in Prussia these variations are most noticeable. The 1847 issue exists with and without a laurel wreath as a water-mark. In the two s. g. blue paper, it is very distinct when held up to the light.

Now in regard to grilling, I will only say that the U. S. three cent green, grilled is worth ten cents; ungrilled, nothing. The one cent blue, grilled, worth a quarter of a dollar, ungrilled, one cent. I will close by telling you what you very likely know, that two sizes of perforation have been issued in the United States letter sheet envelope.

Northern Indiana's Game Birds.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

RUFFLED GROUSE.—[*Bonasa umbellus.*] This beautiful bird is a common resident with us and owing to its secluded habits and unexcelled powers of flight is not likely to be exterminated. It has a number of names, such as Pheasant in the Western States and Partridge in the Eastern, but neither can be properly applied to it. Early in spring it commences to drum upon logs with its wings and does it so vigorously that it resembles thunder. They commence to build their nest about April 20th and the complement is usually completed by May 5th. The set varies from seven to twelve. The nest is composed of leaves placed in a hollow of the ground at the foot of a tree or between logs. The eggs are a dark cream or light brown, sparingly blotched with a deeper brown: measuring 1.65x1.20. As the bird is the same color as the leaves and will not leave the nest until trod on, accounts for their rareness.

PRAIRIE HEN.—[*Cupidonia Cupido.*] Nearly all birds have two or three nicknames especially game birds, but this is an exception. During the colder months of winter they frequent the woods and are found in company with the Ruffed Grouse, but early in March they are back at their old haunts. Their cry is made by the male only during the pairing time. The nest is placed in oat fields and meadow lands and is formed of hay and straw placed in a cavity of the ground. The set varies from twelve to eighteen. The eggs measure about 2x1.45 and vary in color from a light brown to a tawny ash color, often blotched and spotted with a reddish brown. Two broods are raised each season. If incubation has become advanced the female will allow herself to be caught before leaving the nest.

QUAIL, BOB WHITE.—[*Oryz virginiana.*] This bird was once common, but

hard winters and still harder "pot hunters" have nearly exterminated it, still its cheery whistle is occasionally heard. I have heard old pioneers speak of them as being as common as Blackbirds of to-day. Many a time have they told me, has their corn crib been full of them but they never thought of disturbing them. When roosting at night they set in a circle with their heads directed outward. The nest is usually placed on the skirts of a belt of woods or in meadows. The nest is formed of grass, in which she places her set of eggs, varying from fifteen to twenty-five. The eggs are a pure white color, are blunt at one end and pointed on the other. Two broods are raised each year.

WILD TURKEY.—[*Meleagris gallopavo americana.*] This bird was once common during the old pioneer days, but none have been seen for a number of years.

Notes on Some Kentucky Birds.

III.

BY L. O. PINDAR.

"I say, old pard, lets go for some squirrels." It is my friend, C. H. standing before me, gun in hand.

"Oh! I don't want to go; no fun to me to shoot squirrels with a shot gun. If I had a rifle I'd go. I'll go for a stroll in the woods though. Come on!"

A leap over the fence, across the street, another fence and we are in the woods this bright day in March. Robins are busily engaged in pulling worms out of the ground and bluebirds are warbling merrily when I hear the song of one of the best musicians of the woods, the Wood Thrush. Pretty soon I see the bird on a rail fence and pulling out a note book record his arrival.

Soon he will have mated and by the first of May I will look for the nest which is one of the easiest found and hardest to get as it is on a slender limb which will not bear much weight and cannot be reached from the ground. It is composed of sticks, leaves and mud. The complement generally consists of four blue eggs averaging smaller than those of the robin.

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" " " " " " without cents \$1.
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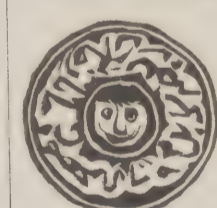
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Mineral Constituents.

BY W. S. BEEKMAN.

In the last number I made mention of one of the beautiful elementary mineral constituents of Nature. That is all I intended to have said in regard to this element, but, having received several applications for specimens of this peculiar metal together with pure specimens of the mineral that contains the highest percentage of the same, and that, with each application there have been several interesting notes and queries concerning both the mineral and its elementary constituents. I think enough of interest can be added to what has already been said, to fully compensate for the space taken.

A substance to be regarded as one of the elementary constituents of Nature, does not have to materially differ from any other substance in any respect whatever, when considered in its physical appearances. It may be a liquid, a gas, or a solid. It may be of any color whatever. It may be visible or invisible, as the case may be. In what respect then, you may ask, does the elementary constituent so differ from other bodies as to have a different consideration of it? In differing from other bodies, the only claim that an element can boast of is the unusual simplicity of its structure.

Were you to take a handful of beans and the same of peas and shake them together, you would not give them to your friend saying; "Here is a jar of beans," because you know that there was something else in the jar besides the beans. You would call it a mixture of beans and peas, each being fairly easily separated from one another. Take up a lead pencil and a lump of chalk, for a moment. Let us cut away the wood surrounding the black lead so as to leave it free. Now a chemist will, after examining these two substances, explain their structure something in this style, if some young collector starts him agoing on the subject.

Look at this fragment of chalk and this bit of black lead, my young friend. Try to imagine them on a larger scale. In your mind, magnify them to the size of this jar of peas and beans and now, if you are capable of doing this, let me tell what you would see, could you still exercise your bump of comparison to its utmost capacity. Even as this jar contains small individual peas and beans, lying one upon each other like grains of sand, so must these lumps appear to consist of little grains, each as perfect an individual in itself as are the individual peas and beans. With the chalk I can do more, however, than with the peas and beans. If I begin to separate the latter I soon have two piles, one of peas and one of beans. But from these beans now free from the peas, I can take nothing else away. With the chalk, however, if I begin to pick out the different grains, I soon form three piles of different bodies. If I put these three bodies together again I have my lump of chalk once more restored to me. So were I to make a lump of chalk, it would be necessary for me first to obtain a supply of these three different bodies for the chalk's construction.

I now look at the particles of my black lead, in its magnified condition; and, curious to find out what I can get out of this, I begin to pick out the different grains. It soon becomes apparent that the black-lead grains are all of the same kind and nothing that is different can be taken from the lead. It is like the jar after all the peas have been taken out; it is all beans and nothing else.

Now this is where an elementary body differs from all other bodies. They are composed of the same kind of grains and nothing different can be taken away from them. Out of all the various objects of the universe and the universe itself, there are only about 70 such substances that contain no other particles in their make-up, but themselves, are called elementary. We are acquainted with many of these elements, yet, we can never tell an element from its appearance. Lead, Copper, Gold, Silver, Nickel, Tin, Zinc, Iron are all metals and they are all elements. Under no circumstances whatever have we ever been able to obtain from them anything differing from their particular particles.

Magnesium is one of these elementary bodies. We know it to be a silvery-white metal, which, when touched with a lighted match, will burn with one of the most intense lights conceivable. The light is of a beautiful mellow radiance, at the same time of intense brilliancy and is easily obtained if you have the element to burn. Magnesium has been known to the world since 1808, when first called to notice by Davy. It resembles zinc in its appearance, in many respects. When a piece of Magnesium is burnt in the oven, there is left a white substance, that is nothing more or less than the Magnesia from which it was to be obtained.

Probably every collector has taken

Magnesium in some of its very much modified forms, but has never associated his ideas with the stuff he was taking with the beautiful element that might, if conditions were proper, be obtained from it. Epsom Salts is a combination of this element with an acid and has acquired an almost universal acquaintance with men, poor beings, who dislike to pucker their palates with such objectionable tastes. In a small way Magnesium may be manufactured from some of its salt in an ordinary pipe bowl. If you can obtain some Magnesium Chloride and then place it in a pipe-bowl and run an iron wire through the stem of the pipe into the fused Chloride, while in the bowl a piece of gas carbon is so placed that it just dips into the fused Chlorides, we may, with care reduce in this manner a small globule of Magnesium by heating the above over a gas flame.

The light of a burning piece of this element has been seen at a distance of 30 miles. A burning Magnesium wire 0.297 m. m. evolves as much light as 74 candles of five to the pound. In order to produce a light equal to 74 candles burning for 10 hours, 20 lbs. of stearine would be used, while only 2 1-2 oz. of Magnesium would be used. In burning Magnesium all that is necessary for you to do is to secure one end by a pair of tweezers, or by sticking a pin through the wire and light the other end by means of a match or candle. However in order to have a general supply of light, a lamp has been so constructed that the Magnesium only is fed as fast as it burns. Being exceedingly rich in actinic rays, it is used in photography, where daylight is inconvenient. Every collector should personally investigate this element.

As regards the wonderful properties of many of the Mineralogical derivations, perhaps the element Sodium excites as much genuine surprise from the amateur as any other one phenomena. This metalloid, Sodium, when freshly cut, very much resembles in its aspect the other silvery-appearing metals as Magnesium itself. We do not have to take the trouble, however of applying a lighted match to this metal in order to see it burst into a flame. If you are desirous of showing to your friends the wonders of a piece of Sodium, you might first take them to your cabinet and show them a few minerals from which this metal is derived. You might show them the different feldspars, zeolites and halite. You might explain to them that halite was merely a variety of salt, such as is used on the breakfast table. That out of this salt the peculiar metal Sodium could be obtained by a process by no means as simple as the taking of the peas from the beans was, but by methods of chemical skill. You further proceed and tell them that you are about to set the metal on fire and it will burn with a yellow flame. So you procure a tumbler of water or a piece of ice and that is all the match you require. We are all familiar with the principles of putting out fires with water but when it comes to setting a house on fire with water or ice, it is something a little hard to understand. Yet that this can be actually done, you will easily be convinced if you take a bit of this metalloid sodium and place it on a bit of ice or a moistened bit of blotting paper. You will see that it at once bursts into a flame.

Much more concerning these elementary substances could be brought before your attention that would please you and in a future paper I may speak more to their general properties than before.

California Gold.

California gold bangles are all the rage now, for pins, bracelets, and rings. We have just received a large stock direct from San Francisco, Cal., and can furnish them at the following prices: Quar. dol. size, 28 cents; half dol. size, 56 cents, either round or octagon, post free. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

The King Eider.

BY E. A. PHILBRICK.

Doubtless many of the readers of the CURIOSITY WORLD are familiar with the old saying, "as soft as eider down," yet I dare say but few have ever seen more than the soft and beautiful plumage of the *Somateria Spectabilis*. This bird is a resident of the Arctic regions and is seldom found as far south as the United States. Vast numbers inhabit the inhospitable cliffs of Greenland and Iceland, furnishing an important article of commerce to the inhabitants of these barren countries.

The nest is a coarse affair, composed of grass and leaves and is placed on the ground. Both male and female work together on these nests and when the foundation is laid the female eider places a marginal roll of the down, which she plucks from her own breast, all around the edge. When she is away in search of food this roll is carefully turned down over the eggs, forming a coverlet imperious to the most bitter cold. The feath-

ers are gathered from the nests by the natives for export, and the poor bird again plucks herself for the protection of her home. These are also gathered, when the male, gallant bird that he is, promptly comes to the rescue and places his own clothing around the nest. This, although whiter is not as soft and valuable and is left in the nest, for if disturbed the third time they depart never to return.

The eggs are of a dirty-green and from six to ten in number, although some authorities claim that two birds frequently occupy the same nest. The size varies from 2.60 to 2.65 long by 1.75 to 1.80 broad.

A Popular Nesting-Site.

BY LE GRAND T. MEYER.

There is in the northern part of Indiana a grove of pine trees covering about one-fifth of an acre. These trees are on the prairie, about a mile from any habitation. They are planted so thickly, probably to satisfy the owner's caprice that the only way to get between them is to crawl on one's hands and knees.

In the spring of '85, May 15th, I chanced to wander here on an oological expedition. As I entered I found fifteen Mourning Doves' nests. These nests were rude structures of hay and twigs and contained the usual complement of two eggs, with but one exception, which contained three. The female doves were so tame that they could be caught on the nests.

Twelve Bronzed Grackles, (*Quiscalus purpureus aeneus*.) The nests were composed of hay, grass, pine spines and mud and were situated in the tops of the trees. The usual complement was five and six eggs averaging 1.2x.87. They were of a light blue color, heavily blotched with rusty brown and black. Incubation commenced.

Two Brown Thrashers with four and five each and three robins. Although I took but two sets from here, while I was in the grove I had quite a concert of oological music.

Specimens of Palaeolithic Art.

The river Tardore in La Charente, France, is famous for the caves along its banks, out of which numerous evidences of occupation by prehistoric man have been collected from time to time. Among the objects which M. Eugene Paignon has recently found in one of the caves is a piece of rein-deer-horn, perforated, of the form known as staff of command, which is covered with accurate and spirited engravings, and marked by work of such fineness that it can be seen best with a lens. On one of the faces of the staff is a representation of two seals, one of which is seen entire with its four limbs, the hinder limbs being faithfully rendered, and having five digits on each flap. The size of the tail is exaggerated. The body is covered with very evident hairs. The head is delicately executed, and the snout with its mustaches, the eye, and the ear-orifice indicate genuine skill. The other seal is not entirely seen. It is larger and shows the marks of long hair on the neck. In front of the larger seal is a fish which may be a salmon or trout, for it is spotted like those fish, and its ventral fins are attached to the abdomen. Three plant-forms are seen near the fish. The opposite side of the horn is nearly covered with two long and slender animals, one showing its head and the other one the end of its tail. They are probably intended to be seals. On the same side of the horn are three figures of identical form, the meaning of which is not clear, and a figure that may be a hemipterous insect. M. Gaudry has no doubt of the authenticity of this specimen, for he is assured by M. Paignon, who is a lawyer and publicist of repute, and interested in prehistoric studies, that it was found in his presence by his own workmen while digging out the bone-earth from the bottom of the cave.—*Popular Science Monthly*.

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This book, by the well-known author, H. J. Miron, contains much valuable information for both dealer and collector, and is having a very large sale. Every Philatelist should have a copy, and by a careful perusal of its contents he would know many things about the science of Philately that he never knew before. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

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Probably nearly every one in the United States knows that there are many coins in circulation that are worth much more than their face value, but they wouldn't know them if they should meet them in the middle of the street. We have issued a Premium Coin List, containing 94 illustrations, and giving our buying prices for every U. S. coin worth over face value. Every one who handles money should possess a copy. Price, 10 cents, or 3 for 25 cents, post free. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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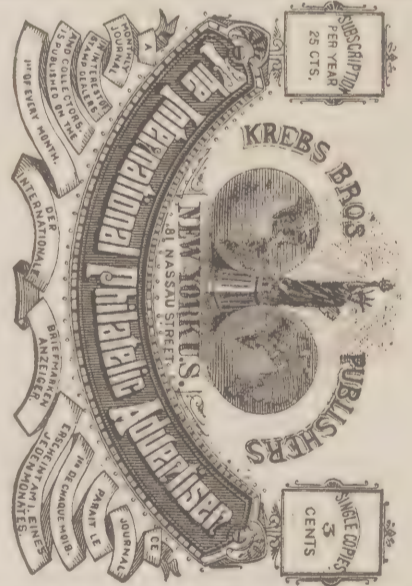
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THE "OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN."

The New Hampshire Sphinx.

BY E. A. PHILBRICK.

When Ruskin wrote that sublime masterpiece of English literature, "Modern Painters," I believe he must have had the Pemigewasset Valley in mind when he says: "The best image the world can give of Paradise, is in the slope of the meadows, orchards and cornfields, on the side of a great Alp, with its purple rocks and eternal snows above." Pemigewasset is derived from the name of the aboriginal dwellers of the valley and signifies "Place of Crooked Pines." The river has its source in Profile lake, Franconia Notch, nineteen hundred and fifty feet above sea level. From its source it presents many a spot of interest to the geologist as remarkable examples of the erosive power of water.

Within the narrow mountain pass styled the Franconia Notch are probably more striking examples of rock scenery than any other equal space on the globe. Beginning with the Flume, we have the Pool, Basin, Cannon and Eagle Cliffs and Echo Lake, all enclosed in a canon five miles long and less than half a mile wide. But it is not of these we have to deal, but of that massive colossal sculpture known as the "Profile" or "Old Man of the Mountain." Older and infinitely grander than the sphynx which watches o'er Egypt's sands, "not made with human hands, eternal and in the skies," it has gazed down the smiling valley since the creation, bearing upon its face a look of patient weariness as if watching, waiting for something that never comes. Hawthorne styles it "The Great Stone Face" that "seemed as if an enormous giant or a Titan, had sculptured his own likeness on the precipice."

I never shall forget my first view of this grand carving. It was a smiling day in August as we left Bethlehem and descended into the little hamlet of Franconia. Suddenly vast clouds obscured Lafayette, rolling nearer, Aggasiz and Round Mt. were lost to view and we were in the midst of one of those sudden tempests which so characterize the mountain region. But as we climbed upward the storm was left behind in the valley and all was clear. As we passed Echo Lake the bugler sounded his call and the echo came, as might the clan-call of Rhoderick Dhu over Loch Lomond, hurled back from one cliff to the other, until it died away in the distance—sweet, clearer, like a music not of earth. One is forcibly reminded of Tennyson's "Bugle Song."

A few rods farther on, a sign-board advises the traveler to look up and gazing heavenward the Profile stood out on a background of fleecy clouds with a sublimity that was startling. I had made the acquaintance of the "Old Man" years ago by engravings and photographs and expected to find some slight resemblance to human features, leaving imagination to

fill in the rest. "There was the broad arch of the forehead, a hundred feet in height; the nose, with its long bridge; and the vast lips, which if they could have spoken would have rolled their thunder accents from one end of the valley to the other." There was something which the engraving lacked; a look of patient sadness which the cunning of the photographer's art could not catch. I do not wonder at the superstition of the Indian, who looked upon it with awe and reverence, and never dared fish in the little lake below. We, gazing upon it at this date, illuminated by the light of eighteen hundred years of civilization, can easily imagine the emotions of the child of the forest, as, perhaps tired from the chase he stoops to quench his thirst from the silvery lake. Suddenly his eye beholds the stern features mirrored in the bright water and gazing heavenward, falls upon his knees in dumb adoration of the grandest handiwork of Nature. As I gazed, the dark mist shut down as a veil and I drove away "and there was left, as is left to us all, yesterday and memory."

A prosaic description would give it as situated on the western wall of Mt. Cannon, about two thousand feet above the road and nearly four thousand above the sea. The face is formed of three ledges and is seventy feet in height. It was discovered in 1805 by workmen in building the road through the Notch and its fame has spread throughout the country until at present thousands of people are attracted here. But a short distance away is the Profile House, one of the largest and finest summer houses in the country. A narrow gauge railroad has put this isolated spot into communication with the outside world and the whistle of the locomotive awakens the echoes from the beetling cliffs until it seems like the "cry of a lost soul" entombed beneath the jagged rocks.

The Thurn and Taxis Postal System and Postage Stamps.

Read before the Pomeroy Philatelic Society of Toledo, O., by Dr. M. Jungbluth. (Concluded.)

After this short but necessary digression let us return to the main theme of our subject.

The Thurn and Taxis postal service maintained itself despite many conflicts, which have from time to time been occasioned by the establishment of governmental mails—in many of the most flourishing states and districts of central and northern Germany, in some of which the postal service was absorbed by the government, while in others the postal administration was by treaty either sold outright or leased to this family. In pursuance of such treaties the postal territory of the Thurn and Taxis family has from 1815 up to the time of its total abolition comprised the following states and districts:

Both the Hessian principalities, Nassau, Saxe-Weimar, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Saxe-

Meiningen, the towns and villages of both the Schwartzburg's, the Domains of Reuss, Schaumburg-Lippe, Lippe-Detmold, Hesse-Hamburg, Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Lubec, Bremen and Hamburg.

After an existence of more than four hundred years, the energetic and circumspect course of the Prussian government in the year 1866 abolished forever the institution in question by a treaty with the princely family of Thurn and Taxis, dated January 28th, 1867.

It was easy to foresee, that the Thurn and Taxis postal administration would soon participate in the progress, which consisted in the introduction of the adhesive postage stamp. Their first stamps issued in 1852. They are divided into two different classes:—the one for the northern Rayon with the standard coins of thalers, silbergroschen and pfennige, (one thaler=about 75c.=30 silbergroschen) and one for the southern Rayon with the standard coin of florin and kreuzer, (one florin=about 40 cents=60 kreuzer.).

The former show the value in figures in a rectangle framed by a gothic design which bears the inscription of "Freimarke" on top, value below, "Thurn and Taxis" at the right and "Deutsch-Oester Postverein," (German-Austrian Postal Association) at the left; the four corners contain a posthorn and again below the latter the value in figures. The stamps of the higher value show also in the inner netting the value in Roman and Arabic figures.

The first issue from 1852 is a black impression on colored paper. They are:

1-4 silber groschen, red-brown, 1-3 do. light-brown, 1-2 do. green, 1 do. light blue, 1 do. dark blue, 2 do. pink, 3 do. yellow.

The second issue was made in 1859 and is similar in design to the first one, but all the stamps since that year and all the envelopes show colored impressions on white paper:

1-4 silber groschen rose, 1-2 do. green, 1 do. light blue, 2 do. pink, 3 do. chocolate, 5 do. lilac, 10 do. orange.

Another issue dates from the year 1862:

1-4 silber groschen black, 1-3 do. green, 1-2 do. orange, 1 do. pink, 2 do. blue, 3 do. light brown.

One in the same colors but perforated, from 1865 and 1866:

1-4 silber groschen black, 1-3 do. green, 1-2 do. orange, 1 do. pink, 2 do. blue, 3 do. light brown.

The envelopes from 1861, first issue, show the value in figure, white embossed, with lilac surpression to the right in an oval frame with the inscription of "Thurn and Taxis" on top and value in letters below:

1-2 silber groschen orange, 1 do. pink, 2 do. blue, 3 do. light brown.

The next issue of 1862 shows the surpression at the right in the same color as the stamps. The same is the case with the issue of 1866.

1-4 silber groschen black, 1-2 do. orange, 1 do. pink, 2 do. blue, 3 do. light brown.

Provisional envelope stamps were issued in the same year which show the Prussian eagle in white, embossed in oval frame with the inscription "Preussen" on top and value in letters below and with surpression through the center in black: 3 pfennige lilac, 6 do. orange.

The first postage stamps for the southern Rayon of the Thurn and Taxis postal routes were issued in 1850. In the middle they show the value in figures in a differently netted circle enframined in Rococo-style, but the posthorn is placed on the frame and vice versa the value on a shell-like decoration at the four corners above. They are all printed in black on colored paper.

1 kreuzer pale green, 3 do. light green, 3 do. deep blue, 6 do. pink, 9 do. yellow.

The second issue dates from 1859. It shows the same design as the former, only the impression is colored on white paper:

1 kreuzer pale green, 3 do. light blue, 6 do. pink, 9 do. yellow, 15 do. lilac, 30 do. orange.

Another issue dates from 1862:

3 kreuzer pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. light brown.

All the issues thus mentioned were unperforated. In the year 1865 there appeared a perforated issue:

1 kreuzer green, 3 do. pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. light brown.

The envelopes, first issued in 1861, show the value in figure in an oval frame on an octagon basis with inscription of "Thurn and Taxis" on top and the value in letters below. The figure is white, embossed, the impression colored on white paper

with lilac surpression to the right:

2 kreuzer yellow, 3 do. pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. light brown.

Another issue of 1861 shows the surpression in the same colors as the stamps. The same is the case with the issue of 1866:

1 kreuzer green, 2 do. yellow, 3 do. pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. light brown.

In the latter part of 1866 provisional postage stamps were issued for the Thurn and Taxis routes which show in form of an octagon the Prussian eagle, white, embossed with inscription "Preussen" at the top, value in figure at both sides and in letters below:

1 kreuzer green, 2 do. orange, 3 do. pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. dark brown.

The same print was used for envelopes with black surpression across the stamp.

1 kreuzer green, 2 do. orange, 3 do. pink, 6 do. blue, 9 do. brown.

Communication.

Chicago, Ill., July 30th.

ED. CURIOSITY WORLD:—

There is so much coming from all points in regard to the misunderstandings prevalent in the A. P. A. and so much that is decidedly "one-sided" that I feel compelled to say something myself. "Valcin" of the Stamp comes rushing into the fray with a budget of *fiery* (?) darts, launched at Chicagoans and Chicago organizations and then drives one toward Lake Village.

Regarding Mr. Tiffany's "open" letter to members of the A. P. A.—I am most positive that no copies were mailed to Chicago members of the A. P. A., with possibly two or three exceptions. The other *twenty-odd* members, constituting nearly a tenth of the membership of the Association were not allowed to have them, presumably on account of their being acquaintances or friends of Mr. Bradt. Very shortly after the letter was issued, there were several who wrote to Mr. Tiffany asking him to send a copy of the letter in question; to them some three or four weeks have passed and no answer to their polite requests has yet been received. How Mr. Tiffany can recognize such procedure with the action, we would, and have the right to expect of the President of the A. P. A. and of a gentleman, I know not. The Chicago members are not "small boys" to be treated in a cavalier manner by any officer presiding or otherwise.

I am sorry that "Valcin" feels disturbed over the stand that "Bro. Hubbard" has taken with his "Tag and Postmark Collectors'" journal. It strikes me that the July number of the CURIOSITY WORLD contains as much, if not a little more information as to stamp matters than both the July and August issues of the "heavyweight" (?) which occupies the "judicial chair."

Where the "disruption" in the Chicago Society is, I am at a loss to discover. As a member of the same and one pretty well acquainted with the feeling prevalent and I may say that never was such harmony throughout the entire gathering, and what is more; there has been no "split" in the Society. Messrs. Mitchell and Voute resigned purely on their own accord. No trouble existed and none will. The C. P. S. is to-day as strong,—ay stronger than ever and will continue to thrive in spite of all reports to the contrary. Would any muzzling be necessary, I agree with "Valcin" that those who don't know what they are kicking about and endeavor to draw others into a muzz, ought to be muzzled and Chicago need not be the starting point.

Yours Philatelically,

G. S. WILSON.

COINS! 4 U. S. 12 cents, 6 Colonial bills, 50c. U. S. copper coins cheap. Price list free. G. J. Bauer, 73 Front St., Rochester, N. Y.

DOCUMENT, match and medicine stamps on approval to responsible parties. Send list of wants. L. A. JUDKINS, Clarendon, N. H.

SUB scribe for the "Gossip"—the new stamp and coin journal, 25 cents per year; a large 5 page 24 column paper; send for sample copy. Trial adv. 25 cents. Gossip Pub. Co., Box 424, Ottawa, Ont.

FOR SALE, Ten Angora and Coon kittens cat one year old, weighs 13 pounds, price \$7. A beauty. Address M. H. Ranlett, Box 993 Rockland, Maine.

RIVAL No. 9, contains 50 var. including Repub. Portugal, Dominica, U. S. of Columbia, Ecuador, Straits Settlements, Guatemala, Virgin Islands, Cape of Good Hope, Trinidad, Mexico, Hawaii, etc. There are no common stamps in this packet. Price 50 cents. Price list on application. F. B. VOILAND, Charlton, Iowa.

FOR SALE, Two black female Cocker spaniels, 2 years old, \$5 each. Liver and white male and female Cocker spaniel, 12 weeks, price \$4 each, beauties. 2 black and one brown Cocker spaniels from prize stock, \$5 each. 1 liver and white female Cocker spaniel, 6 months old, small breed, \$5. Also female Pug, imported stock, small breed, 15 weeks old, \$10. A beauty. M. H. Ranlett, Box 993, Rockland, Me.

THE CURIOSITY WORLD.

H. J. MIRON, Editor.

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Foreign Countries, 75c

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JOHN M. HUBBARD, PUBLISHER,
LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Entered at the post office at Lake Village, N. H.,
as Second Class Matter.

AUGUST, 1887.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE

NEW ENGLAND PHILATELIC UNION.

This number completes Vol. I. of the CURIOSITY WORLD. One year ago we sent advertising propositions to the leading dealers and letters soliciting articles from well known authors, telling them what we proposed to do, and asking their support. The majority of the dealers were doing all the advertising they cared too, and the writers had no time to attend to our paper. In other words, they did not believe such a paper as we proposed to publish, could live, and they did not care to bother with it. This was discouraging, but we had made up our mind, and went ahead. August 27 we went to Boston and selected our type. The next day we attended the meeting of the New England Philatelic Union, and there we received the first words of encouragement and a few quarters to go with them. When we came to get the first number out, we found we hadn't enough body type and we were compelled to run a page of "patent" matter, in order to get the paper out when we advertised too. That was bad, to begin with. After No. 1 was mailed, the subscriptions came in slow, and the advertisements still slower. No. 2 contained no "patent" matter and brought in a few more subscriptions. Number three did a little better and quite a number of dealers thought they would try an ad in our December issue. This number was mailed the last of December and it brought in over 200 subscribers before the first day of February. This encouraged us, and the best part of it is, both subscriptions and advertisements have continued to come in rapidly, and we have no trouble in filling our columns with articles from the pens of the best writers in the country. Although we had hard luck at first, we have made it up, and we are perfectly satisfied with our year's work, and wish to render our heartfelt thanks to all who have helped to make the paper what it is to day.

Beginning with our next number, which commences Vol. II. the CURIOSITY WORLD will be issued semi-monthly—on the first and fifteenth of each month. Several months ago we made the statement that if we received a certain number of subscribers by September 1st., we would publish the paper twice a month. We have already received the required number, thirty days before the time is up, and propose to do as we promised. We have been advised time and again to let well enough alone and that we should lose money on the semi-monthly. Perhaps so, perhaps not. If we can keep all of our present subscribers and sell as much advertising space as at present, we can pay 100 cents on the dollar and have a little balance on the right side at the end of the year. We own a complete printing office and doing the work ourselves we don't have to pay any printer a profit. During the ensuing year we shall publish a large number of illustrated articles and we expect to give an illustrated list of new issues in each number. We do not publish the paper for amusement, although we do enjoy it; we believe there is money in it and if so, we propose to get it, and to do so we shall be compelled to give a paper that is first class in every respect and that is just what we propose to do. The subscription price will be 50 cents per year for the present and each subscriber will receive just 24 numbers per year. We believe no semi-monthly devoted to our hobbies has ever been published; if not, we will break the record.

The "Stamp" in its last issue accuses us of trying to "abuse" Editor Fraser, and the "Figaro" thinks we are trying to "soft soap" him. That is what is called a difference of opinion. We have never "abused" or tried to "soft soap" Mr. Fraser, or any one else, and furthermore do not propose to. Fraser, in his zeal to defend Mr. Chalmers, went too far and talked as though Bro. Durbin was a little

kid and had yet to "learn what he is talking about." If we remember right, Mr. Durbin is "on the fence," as well as ourselves, in regard to the Hill-Chalmers controversy, and when Mr. Fraser—or anyone else—catches him napping, they will catch a white blackbird. Evidently Mr. Fraser received a set of those jumble stamps, and it has to all appearances turned his head. In our opinion, a person who will go wild after hearing one side of a case and be positive that the claimant is right, without hearing the evidence on the other side, is no more fit to be an editor than he is to be the President of the United States. We clip the "soft soap" from "Plain Talk".

"We are sorry to learn that the 'Empire State Philatelist' is loading itself up to sink. It was once a proud, useful journal, but it has now taken on its staff the late editor of the American Philatelist, and there are but few members of the Association who do not know that the editor himself killed that paper. Small as it was it could have been made a very interesting sheet, but the editor run it into the ground. Mr. Fraser would probably make a good enough blacksmith, or even a shoemaker, but he is a dead stick in the editor's chair, and this is what the 'Empire State' has now engaged to run by."

We had the idea that Mr. Fraser did what he thought was best in regard to the American Philatelist, but after reading his letters in the "Stamp" and "Figaro," we have come to the conclusion that he has altogether more mouth than brains, and that "Plain Talk" has about the right idea of him.

"I appreciate the principles which actuated you in defending Mr. Bradt, yet I believe that no amount of argument will ever convince 'them Queer City fellows' that they are not right and that the rest of the world is not all wrong. Remember the words of the Good Book, 'answer not a fool—' Fred F. Hall, Dundee, Ill."

The Good Book is right, of course, but it is mighty hard for us to keep still and see a friend abused for doing nothing but what his accusers would have done if they had been in his place. He voted for his own paper, and that was perfectly proper, but for so doing he has received enough abuse to sink every one of his accusers, and they have sunk greatly in the minds of a majority of those who know the circumstances. Unless this petty jealousy is done away with, it means the death of the American Philatelic Association.

We wish to inform the "Stamp" that we had much rather be the "mouthpiece" as they are pleased to call us, of the Bradt "clique," than to be the tail end of Tiffany, Mekeel, Mitchell, Voute & Fraser's kite, or mixed up with the Philadelphia kickers. The Philadelphians and Messrs. Tiffany & Co., are mad because Mr. Bradt outgeneraled them and "took the cake" and Fraser uses his chin music out of spite, because Mr. Bradt considered him unfit for official editor and was man enough to tell him so. By the way, the WORLD gives twice the reading matter the "Stamp" does and at the same price and has a circulation nearly three times as large, at the same advertising rates.

The last vote for Official Organ did not amount to much, as less than two thirds of the members voted. The Philatelic Journal of America had a plurality of the votes cast. The Western Philatelist has resigned as Official Organ, and it will be decided at the Convention to be held at Chicago, Aug. 8, 9 and 10.

Mr. W. F. Fraser is now editor of the Empire State.—[Fortnightly.]

If Brother Fraser edits the whole state of New York he will have his hands full.

Valcin, of the "Stamp" says that the "Monumental gall" etc., of Phil Atelic "takes his breath away." It would be small loss to the Philatelic public if it never returned.

"Friend Mekeel's success seems to make Mr. Miron ill."—[Figaro.]

Oh, no! We are very well, thank you. Good men are scarce, and we are very careful of our health.

Subscribe for the WORLD.

We will give a new Gem stamp album containing space for 600 stamps, for only 200 square cut envelope stamps. See adv.

W. B. Hale, of Williamsville, Mass., is about to publish the "Collectors' World."

The CURIOSITY WORLD does contain more reading matter than any 25 cent paper we have ever seen.—[Philatelic Herald.]

The Charleston Philatelic Society has closed up shop and "gone a fishing." The Secretary informs us that there are only 3 members in the city at the present time. The meetings will be resumed in October.

Every stamp collector should have a complete file of the "National Philatelist." It was published by the National Philatelic Society of New York in 1884, and contains more than 200 pages of interesting Philatelic literature. We have purchased all the complete files in the hands of the publishers, and will sell them for 55 cents per vol, post free. Address this office.

Mr. Lyman H. Low, the New York Coin dealer, is summering at Newport, R. I.

Try an advertisement in our next issue. Only 50 cents per inch for 2,500 circulation.

W. S. Kinzer, of Wooster, Ohio, is about to publish the "Philatelic Journal of Ohio."

R. B. Trouslot has sold the "Hoosier Naturalist" to C. R. Orcutt, publisher of the "West American Scientist," San Deigo, Cal.

Those collectors of Stamps, Coins and Indian Relics who wish to dispose of their collections for cash should write to the publisher of this paper.

We wish good, reliable agents to sell stamps from our approval sheets. None but those who can furnish the best of references need apply. Address this office.

"Paper containing my ad received. I also received the same day, 81 letters containing money, 5 asking for agencies and 9 postals asking for terms. The paper is a dandy. Frank H. Rice, Flint, Mich."

Chas. E. Rankin, of San Francisco, Cal., is about to publish a Fraud Directory. All "frauds" who wish their names inserted should forward their addresses to Mr. Rankin at once and he will be pleased to publish them.

We have received from Mr. W. K. Morehead, of Xenia, Ohio, a copy of his "Handy Book for Collectors," containing illustrations, descriptions and prices of rare Indian and Mound Builders' relics. Price 10 cents.

We are always in want of first-class articles pertaining to Philately, Numismatics, Ornithology, Oology, Indian Relics, Autographs, or anything else that will interest our readers. Send along your articles and state cash price for the same.

"Rare American Coins, their Description and past and Present Fictitious Values" is the title of a new book by E. Locke Mason. It contains nearly fifty illustrations and is very interesting and instructive. Price, 25 cents. Address this office.

For only 25 cents we will send post free to any address, one copy each of the "Black List," "Stamp Dealers of the World" and "Stamps, How to Buy and Sell." Every collector should own a set of these books, and now is the time to buy them.

The July number of the Old Curiosity Shop is a decided improvement over the former numbers. It is better printed, is on better paper and a cover has been added, which greatly improves its looks. Will M. Clemens has accepted the editorial management.

We have published the article on Butterfly Collecting, by R. A. Meers, which appeared in the Oct., Nov., Dec., and January issues of this paper, in book form. It contains 26 illustrations and much useful information for anyone who collects Butterflies. Price, 10 cents.

W. K. Jewett, formerly editor of the New England Philatelist published by W. L. Emory, and later the Capital City Philatelist, published by L. M. Hamlen, has just graduated from the Fitchburg (Mass.) High School and will enter Brown University this fall. May success go with him.

We will send the CURIOSITY WORLD six months to any address in the United States or Canada, for only 500 square-cut envelope stamps or one year for 1000. We will also accept \$1.00 worth of any U. S. postage or department stamps catalogued at more than 5 cents each, for a year's subscription.

California Gold.

California gold bracelets are all the rage now, for pins, bracelets, and rings. We have just received a large stock direct from San Francisco, Cal., and can furnish them at the following prices: Quar. dol. size, 23 cents; half dol. size, 56 cents, either round or octagon, post free. John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Stamps, How to Buy and Sell.

This book, by the well-known author, H. J. Miron, contains much valuable information for both dealer and collector, and is having a very large sale. Every Philatelist should have a copy, and by a careful perusal of its contents he would know many things about the science of Philately that he never knew before. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three copies for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

Postage Stamp Albums.

For the beginner we know of no better stamp album than the "Ideal." It contains 72 pages, and space for 12 stamps to the page, making a total of 864 spaces for stamps. It is printed on 70 lb., tinted book paper, and is just the thing for those having a collection of less than 800 varieties, and for more advanced collectors to keep their duplicates in. Price, post free, 15 cents, or two for 25 cents. Address, John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

JUNIOR SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS.

A regular meeting was held July 2nd, with the President in the chair. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Browning was appointed Secretary *pro tem*. No important business was transacted, owing to the small attendance. The evening was spent exchanging and showing stamps. The meeting was adjourned at a late hour.

At the request of several of the members, the meeting which was set for July 16th was held July 9th with the President in the chair. Messrs. Gardner and Rogers were elected active members. A communication from the Secretary was read and the President was appointed to answer it. A bill for printing was presented and approved. Mr. Woodruff was elected to take the place of Mr. Condie on the Executive Committee. The exchange department is a prominent feature of this Society. Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.

T. B. BROWNING, Sec. *pro tem*.

NEW ISSUES.

BY L. W. DURBIN.

AZORES.—Letter cards of Portugal are now in use, surcharged "Acores."

CEYLON.—A new R. 1.12 stamp has been issued, of similar design to the R. 2.50; color, reddish violet.

COCHIN CHINA.—The 25c black on pink has been seen surcharged with two figures 5, and the 25c ochre is reported as having the letters "C. CH." above the numeral.

COLOMBIA.—Two new stamps have lately appeared. The values are 2c and 20c, inscribed, "Republica de Colombia."

ECUADOR.—A new 10c stamp, color orange, has been reported. Also two new cards, 5c and 5x5c.

EGYPT.—A new 1 piastre envelope is said to have appeared lately.

FRANCE.—The 10x10 card has the inscription "reserve exclusivemnt" reversed.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The 2s.6d., is in use, surcharged "Official."

MACAO.—The 80c has been surcharged as follows: "5 reis," "10 reis," and "20 reis."

MARTINIQUE.—The 20c red on green has been surcharged as follows: "M. Q. E. 15c" (2 var)—"Martinique 015" and "Martinique 15."

ST. HELENA.—The 3d is now lilac and the 6d is slate gray.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—The color of the 2c violet has been changed to yellow brown.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A new 6d stamp of similar design to the 3d has lately been issued; color, pale blue.

VENEZUELA.—Two new cards have been issued. 10c blue on blue and 10x10c green on buff.

VICTORIA.—The 4d stamp has been remodeled and the head is now on horizontally lined ground.

The Stamp Dealers of the World.

We have just issued the Stamp Dealers of the World, containing the address of over 600 stamp dealers in all parts of the world. The list is as complete as is possible to make it and contains 29 pages and cover and is very valuable to both dealer and collector. Price, post free, 11 cents, or three for 27 cents. Address, J. M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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THE CURIOSITY WORLD is an illustrated semi-monthly paper containing four pages, twenty columns, each column about 17 inches long, well filled with interesting matter for all classes of collectors.

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N. B. We are retailing large numbers of these books through the mails, and will enclose circulars therein at 30 cents per hundred, or 400 for \$1. On circulars we send out we print in red ink, "when answering this advertisement, please mention Hubbard's Circular Mailing Agency. Give us a trial hundred. We do all kinds of book, card and job printing at lowest prices consistent with good work. Write for estimates.

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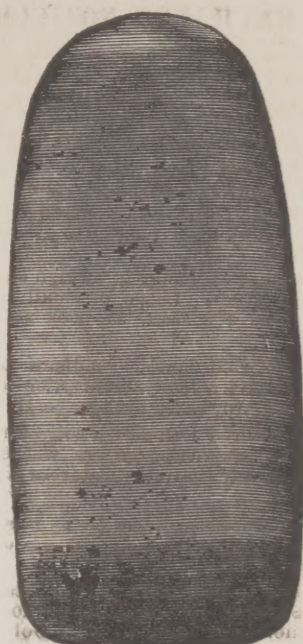
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Env. '62, 3 var.	11
Bavaria, '70, 7 var. complete,	10
Return Letter, 6 var. complete,	15
Retour-brief, 6 var.	15
Unpaid, 1 & 3 kr	06
Bergedorf, 5 var.	10
Bhopal, '81, 5 var. comp	05
Bhore, 2 var. complete,	25
Bolivia, '80, 4 var.	10
Bremen 5 var complete	40
Cape Verde 7 var 5r to 100r	65
9 var 5r to 300r	2
Congo 4 var	40
Corea 5 var complete	60
Corrientes '61-'75 4 var comp	1
Costa Rica '63 4 var	50
Official 5 var	1
68 4 var	25
Danube Steam Nav Co 4 var complete	1
Guanaacaste 5 var complete	25
Guatemala '71 3 var	20
'75 4 var complete	90
'78	90
Env & wrapper cut sq 4 var comp	30
Hamburg 10 var	10
Env 7 var comp	15
Holigoland, '67, 8 var. comp	20
20 var	40
wrappers 3 var comp	10
Honduras '65 wrappers 2 var complete	12
Italy '55 3 var	75
Japan '71 4 var	70
Macao 7 var 5r to 100r	65
Mexico '64 Eng 4 var complete	1
Porte de Mar black 7 var	50
colored 6 var comp	25
Naples head 7 var	50
8 var	05
Nepaul 3 var	65
Porto Rico '82 1-2 to 8m 6 var	25
Persia official 4 var complete	25
Rajpeela letter sheets 3 var	05
Roman States '68 7 var complete	12
Romania '68 3 var complete	55
San Domingo '73 4 var comp	55
Salvador '67	20
Samosa 4 var	20
8 var complete	05
Sardinia 6 var	09
Saxony arms 5 var	09
Servia '68 7 var	15
Siam 5 var complete	55
Spain official 4 var complete	16
Switzerland "Ausser Kurs" 10 var complete	40
Thurs & Taxis 14 var	25
Transvaal '69 5 var complete	40

Celts, or Ungroved Axes of the Ancient Indians.



UNGROVED AXE, WAR HATCHET VARIETY.

BY WARREN K. MOREHEAD.

In the central portion of the United States where the Indians were known to have lived in great numbers, there is found a peculiar-shaped stone implement called a celts. Until recently these celts were not divided into any particular classes, and all archeologists believed there was but one kind and this one kind used for a certain purpose. It is known that some celts found are much larger than others and that as a rule the larger celts are more highly polished than the smaller ones. There are celts which are flattened on one side and have a curved cutting edge and there are also those which are neatly rounded on each side. Why the process was observed and held to in the one and discarded in the other, no one could tell.

The finding of bones in graves and also in mounds in company with these celts, led to a close study of them. It was found that frequently there were animal bones buried in the ancient Indian cemeteries, there were celts with them that were flattened on one side and rounded on the other and which had a curved cutting edge. By experiment it was found that these curved back celts could be used in skinning and cutting up game (when they had been properly sharpened) much better than the other variety, in fact a celts without these peculiarities would hardly slip between the hide and flesh at all. It was immediately concluded that this variety of celts was only used upon game.

The common, rounded on both sides (for convenience let us call this variety No 2) celts was found in graves as was No 1 but was always found with human bones and not with animal bones. This led archeologists to believe that No 2 was used as a war hatchet. The man who made this discovery at first doubted whether a celts could be used in war; he could not see how it could be fastened to the handle securely as it had no groove. But a few experiments in this line showed him that there was no reason why he should doubt. He found that a stick fastened in the following manner would hold any stone of any shape:

The stick was split at the end. Three inches back from the end it was wrapped with a wet leather thong very tight. The celts selected for the experiment was made of green stone and weighed half a pound. was 5 inches in length and tapered towards the top. It was inserted between the halves of the stick at the end and then the ends of the halves were lashed together with wet leather thongs. A long narrow strip of rawhide was dipped in water and wound diagonally across the celts above and below the handle thus doubly securing it. The wet rawhide was allowed to dry for two days and then the strength of the fastenings was tested. A downward blow did not loosen the celts, neither could it be shaken, so closely around it had the rawhide shrunk. One terrific blow struck upon a thick pine board split the board without hurting the edge of the celts or in any way shaking it in its socket. The experiment had been tried and was a decided success. All collectors who heard of this experiment said it settled in their minds the questions regarding the uses celts were put to.

The illustration given above is a reduced likeness of the very celts that was mounted in the handle in the manner indicated. It is a war hatchet such as are found in many Indian graves and about many of our fields in this, (Ohio) and other states. These celts were easy to make. It is supposed that the Indian when he wanted to make one, selected a pebble as near the desired shape as possible and rubbed it down to the required size with his sharpened flint tools. The polish on the edge was attained afterwards by constant use. They would prove just as effective in battle as would the large grooved axes and they were certainly much more easy to wield.

We find quite a number of them in the

central portion of Warren Co., Ohio. There seems to have been one immense Indian village extending along the banks of the Little Miami River for miles. For there we find very many axes, arrows, pestles, celts, slate ceremonials and the like. There was quite a valuable discovery made in this valley not long ago. A farmer while plowing his corn field turned up a "mine" or pocket made of hard-burned clay and as the plowshare struck and broke this pocket there fell from it upwards of 30 fine celts. Some of them were made of flint, which is very rare material to be found in celts, for in Warren county nearly all of them are made of common surface stones.

Celts are often found along streams and may have been used to scale and clean fish, etc. Sometimes they very nearly approach grooved axes. I have several in my collection that have faint traces of a groove around the center, yet I class them as celts.

Rare and Ancient Manuscripts.

BY X. Y. Z.

The most ancient manuscripts extant are the papyrus rolls from the tombs of Egypt, where the dryness of the climate and of the sand beneath which they are buried, preserved them for thousands of years.

One of the oldest manuscripts known is the *Prisse* papyrus, in the National Library at Paris, a moral treatise written by Prince Ptahhotep, of the 5th dynasty, the beginning of which is placed by Mariette at 3951 B. C. Manuscripts consisting principally of contracts, bills of sale, accounts, letters, etc., are found dating from the beginning of the 9th century, B. C., to about the 2nd century, A. D.

Among one of the oldest specimens of manuscripts are found fragments of a treatise on rhetoric and a part of the 13th book of the *Iliad*, written in the 3rd century, B. C., now in the National Library at Paris. A recently discovered leathern manuscript of the ritual of the dead, written in black and red hieratic characters is now in the Berlin museum. It is ascribed to the 18th century. No authentic manuscript or fragments of manuscripts of the Bible of the first three centuries are known to exist. Of the Biblical manuscripts of the 5th century the "*Codex Alexandrinus*," containing nearly the whole of the Greek Bible is the most important. It is in four quarto volumes with pages 13 inches high by 10 broad, has two columns with 50 lines each to the page and is written in uniform uncials with the first three lines in each book in red ink.

A rare Greek manuscript of the 6th century, containing the four Gospels and Acts with Latin translations is now in the Library of Cambridge. Other renowned manuscripts of the 6th century are: a translation of Virgil, in the Vatican; a *Prudentius*, the sermons of St. Augustine on papyrus and a copy of the Theodosian code, all in the National Library at Paris; a copy of the fifth decade of Livy in the Imperial Library at Vienna; a "*Lactantius*" and the breviary of Alaric at Bologna; and a palimpsest containing 4000 lines of the *Iliad* in the British Museum. The Arabic numerals first appear in writing near the beginning of the 12th century. Abbreviations early came into use.

The science of reading and judging ancient manuscripts is called diplomatics. "In examining a manuscript, in order to judge of its antiquity, it is necessary to consider the quality and character of the material on which it is written; the style of the writing; the inks used; its miniatures, vignettes and arabesques; the colors in which they are executed; the cover; its material and ornamentations, and the character of the contents."

The Study of Oddities.

BY B. S. MONROE.

To me, oddities and their study is the most interesting branch of Philately. All my spare moments for the last five or six months have been spent in studying up varieties of U. S. stamps only, and I can now say that by patience and toil I have been well rewarded for my labor. By the aid of various catalogues and philatelic papers I have discovered several rare varieties among which I may mention a 2c. envelope of 1863, which I supposed to be worth fifteen or twenty cents, but could not be bought for less than \$1.25.

To be sure, all varieties studied have not proved as profitable as this financially, but the knowledge obtained in some cases far exceeds the worth of the stamp and I feel very well satisfied with the result I have obtained in the last three months. Other collectors may not look at this as I do, but I consider the study of varieties and oddities and a knowledge of the same a far greater advantage than the study of regular issues.

I have studied the 1861-68-69 and '70 issues in particular and can say to fellow-

collectors that from such study I have emerged with almost double the number of stamps I had in the beginning, some of which I had often heard of but never expected to own—much less discover myself. Surely never was a person made so happy over the simple finding of a few pieces of paper than was I when I discovered several grills backs of the 1861 and 1870 issues. I was determined to find any rare stamp I possessed if possible, and began my search of duplicates with that end in view. My success far exceeded my expectations. This only spurred me to further efforts. I could hardly keep my eyes off the elegant specimens I had found but stood admiring them for a long time. They are now before me as I write and if a mistake creeps in here it is due to my paying more attention to the stamps than to my subject.

My advice to stamp collectors is: Study the stamps you possess as many of your duplicates may be valuable and by shrewd trades with your fellows you can make a valuable collection from a small beginning. Mind that by "shrewd" I don't mean cheating, dishonest trades, but a straight-forward legitimate exchange. Never be dishonest in exchanging.

Of course it takes study to make this advancement and the study of one stamp often leads to the study of others or in a still deeper channel of the same variety, which, when sifted to the very bottom may prove the student the owner of perhaps a valuable specimen before unknown. Such has been the case with me in many instances.

As a rule, oddities are worth more than the regular issues and owners of such may in some cases feel well off. Collectors of oddities in stamps, myself for instance, may be classed among the foolish by collectors of regular issues, but I care not. I pride myself on that point and hope others do the same.

In conclusion let me say that one of the largest if not the largest collection of U. S. stamps known contains a large number of oddities, many being worth a sum out of reach of the average collector. I cannot help indulging in Pemberton's words of advice: "Study the stamps and an imperceptible sense will come to you."

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Natural Bridges.

BY J. W.

Natural Bridges are to be met with in various regions of the globe and some of them are not unworthy to rank among its wonders. They are almost all formed by the action of water, which, worming its way through crevices in rocks, or the soft, porous soluble strata underneath, gradually by abraded or dissolving the face of the channels it permeates, scoops out for itself a wider and a wider passage. If the water percolates the strata near the surface of the rock opposing it, the result is ere long a stream open to the light throughout its entire course; but if the percolation takes place at a depth below, an arch or vault is left overhead, which shall be wide or narrow, straight or tortuous, long or short, according to the breadth of the rock, and the regular or irregular softness, and solubility of its substance. It is thus, for instance, that caves are formed and if the compartments of the cave are of various dimensions, and at different levels, this is because the rock yields more readily to the solvent or abrasive power of water in one part of its mass than another. Limestone rocks are, above all others, most susceptible of such erosion and it is in them accordingly that caves principally exist. Yet is water not without effect on rocks of a firmer texture, especially when to its power of melting is added the friction due to its agitation or motion. This action of water in percolating and perforating rocks, in a way to account for natural grottoes and bridges, is a phenomenon attested by the structure of every river on the face of the globe: not one of them but is fed through the medium of water-formed channels of various calibre which permeate to all lengths the mass of the mountains where they have their springs. But not only are these perforations universal at the sources of rivers, of any extent at least; they are not unfrequently seen to be formed by them after they have begun their course.

THE ROCK BRIDGE, VA.

This bridge spans a rock fissure or chasm about one hundred and sixty miles due west from Richmond and approached generally from Lexington which is exactly twelve miles to the north-east. This remarkable bridge spans a ravine which, from its brink downward is below the level of the surrounding country; and that, being sixty feet wide and of sufficient strength, it is, like the one in Lebanon, crossed by a road, from the sides of which it is barely possible for the steepest head to look down into the abyss below without dizziness and vertigo. Not from this position, however, is it customary for the tourist to obtain his first view of its immense proportions. It is usual rather to form an acquaintance with it by descending a rocky path formed in a side of the ravine, and by inspection of it from the bottom of the ravine itself. The very first glance from this point strikes the beholder with mute astonishment and a sense of the utter impotency of all the art of man to express or delineate its matchless grace and majesty. It has an elevation of above 210 feet, a span of 90 and a breadth as I have said, of 60 feet. The piers of the bridge are perpendicular, its arch being covered a-top with soil sufficient to root and grow considerable trees, which from this position are seen crowning it and you have an opportunity of estimating its upward dimension by contrast with certain kings of the forest, which, springing from the margin of the brook, nevertheless come far short of reaching the point where its curvature commences.

This bridge gives name to the county of Virginia in which it is situated, which accordingly is called Rock-bridge county, and it affords the only passage there is for miles above or below, for crossing from one side of the ravine to the other. Underneath the arch, some 30 feet from the bottom, the tourist has pointed out to him the letters G. W. graven in the rock. These are the initials of George Washington, who is said when a boy to have scrambled so far up the rock here and proudly left behind him this memorial of the daring feat.

The Mammoth Fossil Elephant.

BY X. Y. Z.

The mammoth fossil elephant is found in the diuvial strata of Europe and Asia and perhaps in North America. Large fossil bones were alluded to by Pliny and other ancient authors and were supposed to be the remains of giant men. They are very abundant in the drift of northern and central Europe, mingled with the bones of other pachyderms and found principally in river basins. There is hardly a river in Siberia in whose bed, or on whose banks these remains have not been found. In Siberia fossil ivory is so well preserved and so abundant that it gives rise to a considerable traffic both for home and foreign use.

The most remarkable discovery in relation to the mammoth, was the finding of a carcass by a Tungus fisherman in a block of ice on the border of the Arctic sea in 1799, near the Lena river. In the course of a few years the large mass was thawed out and found to be an elephant, having the flesh and soft parts well preserved with the exception of such portions as had been devoured by bears, dogs and other carnivorous animals. The tusks were found to be very fine, weighing 300 pounds and were removed by the fishermen.

Mr. Adams, travelling for the St. Petersburg museum in 1806, visited this locality and collected the remains which were transported to St. Petersburg, where the skeleton now is. The skin of this mammoth has a thick covering of hair and wool, indicating that it was fitted for a cold climate.

The following are the chief differences between the fossil and living elephant as determined by Cuvier: "The tusks are much larger than in most living specimens and generally more curved, but the structure is the same. The skull is of greater length and the bones of the limbs are more massive. The skin is like that of the living elephant but is covered with hair of three kinds; the longest 12 or 15 inches long is brown and like horse hair; the shorter, 9 or 10 inches, is more delicate and fawn-colored and the wool at the base of the hair, 4 or 5 inches long is fair, smooth, fawn-colored and a little frizzled towards the roots; there is a mane on the neck and the whole covering is well suited for a cold climate. The mammoth has never been found living. Its bones have been found mingled with those of the antelope, rhinoceros, ox, horse, often with marine animals and sometimes with fresh water shells."

"They were undoubtedly overwhelmed by a comparatively recent and sudden catastrophe during some portion of the long drift period, accompanied by a depression of temperature and probably by a subsidence of the land and an invasion of the sea, general over the northern regions of both hemispheres; during the preceding tertiary epoch there was an elevation of temperature, permitting tropical animals to go far to the north; this temperature gradually became colder, the animals becoming adapted to it, as shown by their external covering, until they suddenly became extinct during the glacial period of the drift."

From figures on bones it is without doubt that the mammoth lived with man in the early stone age. The remains of mammoths have been found in New York, New Jersey, Kentucky, Texas, Mexico, Spanish America, California, in the Mississippi valley and in Alaska; although of a different species from those found in Europe or Asia.

Pyramids.

BY EDWARD P. NEWCOMBER.

The most famous pyramids are those of the ancient Egyptians which with few exceptions are the tombs of kings. The theories that they were astronomical monuments or huge store-houses, or as Prof. Piazza Smith holds, memorials of a system of weights and measures intended to be universal and built with the aid of divine inspiration, are not supported by the accounts of the ancients, neither by the Egyptian inscriptions and other testimony. The facts that the pyramids are found in the midst of a cemetery, that they contain sarcophagi and mummies and that the inscription on the tombs of many priests mention as a special honor that the deceased officiated at the funeral service held at the pyramids, seem to prove that they were tombs.

Previous to about 3000 B. C. the tombs were in the form of "mastaba," or merely rectangular walls looking like unfinished pyramids, and their interior was richly decorated with sculptures and paintings, referring either to the life of the deceased or to the gods of the current religious system. The pyramids are only enlarged "mastaba" and as such belong to the first period.

Each one was commenced over a sepulchral chamber, excavated in the rock and during the life of the king for whom it was intended, the work of building up the structure over this chamber went on, a very narrow and low passage way being left open as the courses of stone were added, by which access from the outside was secured to the central chamber. At the death of the king the work ceased and the last layers were finished off and the passage way closed up.

The piles were constructed of blocks of red granite from the quarries of Asswan and also of others of a hard calcareous stone from the quarries of Turah and Mokaton. They were of extraordinary dimensions and their transportation to the pyramids and adjustment in their places indicate a surprising degree of mechanical skill.

Their thickness varied from two to four feet and when arranged one upon another, forming steps up the outer slopes, the thickness of the stones determining the height of the step.

The foundations for the structures were excavated in the solid rock, sometimes to the depth of ten feet and upon this the great stones were arranged and built up, layer upon layer, one shell succeeding another, the spaces being filled in with smaller stones closely packed. To quarry and move the immense blocks to the pyramids and then raise them to their places required no little engineering skill, notwithstanding an unlimited amount of human labor was at command.

"The three pyramids of Memphis group stand upon a plateau, about 137 feet above the level of the highest rise of the Nile and not far apart. The largest of them, known as the great pyramid or the Pyramid of Cheops, (Khufer or Shufur) covers at present an area of about thirteen acres. By stripping off the outer casing of this pyramid the courses of stone appear in the form of steps which, though ragged and unequal can be ascended even by the ladies. The great pyramid has 203 of these steps, the lower ones being about 5 feet high. The present vertical height is 450 feet and the present length of the sides is 746 feet. The total weight of the stone is estimated at 6,316,000 tons.

This pyramid contains many chambers, but it is probable there are yet undiscovered apartments in the immense body of this structure. The second pyramid, King Shafra, stands on a base of 33 feet above that of the great pyramid and in an excavation made for it in the rock. Its present dimensions are:—length of sides, 447 1-2 feet and height 690 feet, 9 inches. The upper portion of its casing is still preserved and persons can ascend, though not without danger, especially if liable to become dizzy by losing sight of the lower portion of the structure. This pyramid has two entrances, each leading by an inclined passage about 100 feet in length, to the same sepulchral chamber.

The third pyramid at present is only 354 1-2 feet square and 204 feet high. It was explored in 1837 by Col. Vyse, who discovered several apartments, in one of which were a highly-finished sarcophagus and a mummy case, bearing the name of King Menkara and the body of a workman. The last two are now in the British Museum, but the sarcophagus was lost in the passage. This pyramid, though the smallest is the best constructed of the three and the style of the work is more costly than that of any other of the Egyptian pyramids. Near here is also the famous sphinx. In the same vicinity are six smaller pyramids.

Of the other pyramids further south, the largest are of the Dashoor group of which there are five; two of stone and three of rough brick. Abusir has a group of fourteen, but many of them are small and only two are more than 100 feet high. The Sakara field is adjacent to the Abusir and contains 17 pyramids more or less preserved. "The largest and most remarkable of this group is the pyramid in steps, which possibly may once have been as smooth as the other pyramids but none of the stones which formerly filled the gaps are to be seen."

Ruins of pyramids have been found at Benares, India; Pekin, China; and Suka, Java. At Rome one was constructed about 30, B. C., in honor of C. Cestius, in imitation of the Egyptian monuments and furnished with a sepulchral chamber.

In Mexico are similar structures far-exceeding in the area they cover, even the great pyramid of Egypt. These monuments called "teocallin," literally, "Houses of God," are pyramids in terraces with flat tops and surmounted by a chamber or cell, which is the temple itself. There are two pyramids at Teotihuacan, the largest of which is apparently a square of 645 feet with a height of 171 feet.

"While Egyptian pyramids were always tombs and terminate in a point without steps leading to the apex, the Mexican are always temples and in terraces with the upper platform crowned by a chamber or cell." It is believed by some scientists that the pyramids of Egypt and those of Mexico were erected by the same race or tribe of people.

Rare Coins.

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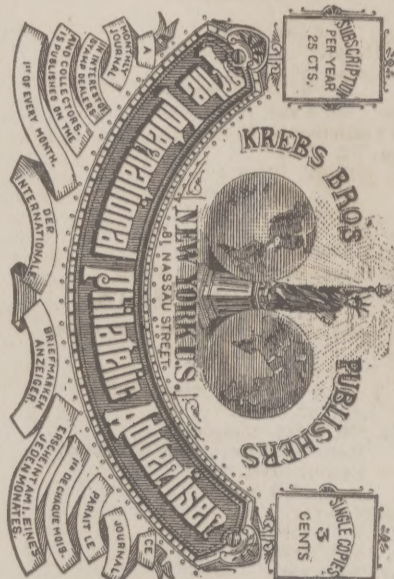
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